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LUNDY ISLAND:

A Monograph,

DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL;

WITH

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Notices of its Distinguishing Features in Natural History.

BY

JOHN ROBERTS CHANTER.

The Templar Rock, Lundy.

LONDON:
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PREFACE.

THE substance of this volume was contributed to the Devonshire Association in 1871, and printed in their Transactions for that year. It is now offered to the public considerably extended and revised.

The great interest of late evinced by visitors to North Devon, as to this romantic and remarkable Island, has led to much enquiry about its history and peculiarities, which it is hoped the present volume will meet in a popular form.

The authorities for its ancient history, and the sources of information generally, are for the most part cited; but as the quotations from the Public Records are very numerous, and such Records are now easily accessible by means of the Calendars and Indexes published by the Record Office, it has not been thought necessary to append references in each case.

I have to express my thanks to the Rev. H. G. Heaven, and many other friends, for their valuable assistance in compiling and revising this work.

FORT HILL, BARNSTAPLE, 1877.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

Descriptive.

General Appearance of Island as seen from Ashore and nearer—Little known or noticed by Topographers—The Authorities for its Early History—Literature of Lundy—Drayton's *Polyolbion*—Tableau—*Lundy Review*—Periodicals of Lundy—Topography—Hydrographical Description—Physical Features—Landing-places—Roadstead and Shipping—Communication with Mainland—Posts and Telegraph—Harbour of Refuge—Different Schemes for ditto—Difficulties in its way—Eastern and Western Coasts Contrasted—Singular Shape of Island . 9

CHAPTER II.

Round the Coast.

Perambulation of the Island—Sugar-loaf Rock—Granite Quarries and Jetty—Half-way Wall—Logan Stone—Templar Rock—Tibbett's Hill—Round Tower—Brazen Ward—Mousehole—Gannett Rock—Constable—North-east Corner—Slope and Boulders—Sea Birds—North-west Point—Hen and Chickens—Fresh-water Spring in Sea—West Side—The Cheeses—Stratification—The Earthquake—Extraordinary Fissures—Probable Causes—Punch-bowl Valley—Caves—Seal Cavern—Benjamin's Chair—The Black Rock—Shutter Rock—Devil's Limekiln—Deep Chasm—The Rattles—Marisco Castle—Benson's Cave—Peninsula of Lametor—Rat Island 26

CHAPTER III.

Climate and Configuration.

Springs and Streamlets—Eminences and Valleys—Subdivisions of Island—Climate—Winds—Snow and Frost—Equableness of Temperature—Rainfall—Ground Sea—Effects of Fog—Mirage 37

CHAPTER IV.

Antiquities.

Ruins—Marisco Castle—Strongly Fortified at various epochs—St. Helen's Chapel—Round Towers—Old Batteries—John O'Groat's house—Prehistoric Relics—The Punch-bowl—Tumuli—Kistvaen—Sepultures—Stone Cists—Gigantic Skeletons—Relics in the Stone Graves—Danish Period—Battle of Kenwith Castle 42

CHAPTER V.

Early History.

Supposed early Name, Herculea—Variations in Name—Early British Period—Scandinavian Period—First Recorded Possessors—Sir Jordan de Marisco—Knights Templars—Copy of Grant to ditto by King John—Keepers appointed by the Crown—The Mariscoes Reinstated—Grant to Baldwin Gifford—Piracies of the Mariscoes—Attempted Murder of Henry III.—Retreat to Lundy of the Conspirators—Account of by Matthew Paris—Execution of William de Marisco—Seizure of Island by the King—Government confided to Henry de Tracey and Sir Geoffrey Dinant—Attached to Hartland Abbey—Extent by order of the King—Finding of the Jurors as to the burdens incumbent on the Lord—The Mariscoes again in favour—Lawsuit—Assize of novel Disseisin—Inquisition on the Attainder of Sir John de Wyllyngton—Jurors' Report as to the products, value, and tenures of the Island—Attempted Flight of Edward II. to Lundy—Westcote's Account, and curious verses quoted thereon—Series of subsequent Owners down to the period of the Civil War—Successive Tenures—Importance of Lundy at those periods 54

CHAPTER VI.

History from Civil War.

The Great Rebellion—Lundy a Resort for Outlaws and Pirates—A Commission issued for their Suppression—Captain Salkeld calls himself King of Lundy—Death of Sir L. Stukely there—Turkish Pirates surprise and take it—Captured by the Spaniards—Sir John Pennington proclaims Martial Law—Governor Bushel appointed by Charles I.—He fortifies it—Summoned by Lord Say and Sele and the Parliament to Surrender—Forwards the summons personally to the King—Letter from Charles I.—Account of the Surrender—The Parliament grants a pardon to the defenders—Lord Say and Sele Retreats to Lundy—Tradition of his Death and Burial there—Discovery of his Remains—Fresh Piracies—Grose's Story of its Capture by Stratagem—Lundy a French Privateering Station—Descent of Island from Civil War to the present time—Life and Career of Benson—Deportation of Convicts—Smuggling and Concealment at Lundy—Scuttling Vessel—His Flight to Portugal, and Seizure of his Lands by Government—Account of a Visit to the Island in 1752—Ecclesiastical History—Church of St. Helena—Inductions to the Living—Present Ecclesiastical Position—Description of the Ruins of Church and the Oratory of St. Ann 76

CHAPTER VII.

Cultivation and Productions.

State of Cultivation in early times—Inquisitions and Reports thereon in 1274 and 1321—Value of the Produce—Sir Thomas de la Moor's Description—Curious Discussion as to Wine being grown on the Island—Notes on its Cultivation and Products by Westcote, Risdon, and Camden—Report by Professor Martyn in 1776—Report by Mr. Cleveland's friends in 1787, and Account of their Visit—Report by Britton in 1802—Recent Improvements and Present State—Island much more Productive than formerly supposed—Soil—Guano—Enclosures—Stock—Land under Tillage—Main Sources of Revenue in the olden time—Mode of taking Sea-fowl—Value of their Feathers and Eggs—Danger of the Pursuit—Mr. Hole, the Tenant, Killed—Wanton Destruction of the Birds—Lobster and Oyster Fisheries—Whitebait 100

CHAPTER VIII.

Population.

Ancient Population—Traces of Villages—Number of Inhabitants at various Periods—Lighthouse—Origin and Description—Signal-gun Battery. 116

CHAPTER IX.

Geology.

Peculiar Geological Features—Notices by Geologists—General Description—Granite—Slate—Greenstone Dykes—The Quarries and Granite Company's Works—Varieties of the Granite—Used in olden times for Churches—Failure of the Company—Mineral Products—Copper Ore—Rare Minerals . . 120

CHAPTER X.

Natural History.

No published Accounts—Every Department peculiar—Only partially Investigated—Animals—Black Rats—The Red Rat—Terrestrial Mammalia—Seals—Birds of Lundy—Seasons of Migration—Rare Birds—Winter Resort of Woodcock and Quails—A Paradise for Sportsmen—Other Game destroyed—Some Birds almost new to British Ornithology—Aquatic Birds—Their Profusion and Tameness—Local Names—Extinct Species—Evidence as to Recent Existence of Great Auk—Gannets—Destruction of Sea Birds—Parts most frequented—Food of the Sea Birds—Authorities for Catalogue of Birds—Entomology—Lepidoptera—Coleoptera—Hymenoptera—Authorities for each—Similarity to Wales in its Coleopterous Fauna—Other Rare Insects 129

CHAPTER XI.

Botany and Marine Products.

Peculiarities of Climate—Moisture—Winds—Half-hardy Plants Flourish during Winter: Some with extraordinary Luxuriance—Furze and Fern: Special Varieties—Old-fashioned Herbs persistent near Ancient Ruins—Authorities for Catalogue of Plants—Marine and Littoral—Sea-weeds—Crabs and Lobsters—Zoophytes—Wrecks—Storms 145

APPENDIX.

List of Birds found on Lundy—List of Butterflies and Moths—List of Coleopterous Insects—List of Hymenoptera and other varieties—Catalogue of Plants, Trees, and Flowers . 153

LUNDY ISLAND.

CHAPTER I.

DESCRIPTIVE.

General Appearance of Island as seen from Ashore and nearer—Little known or noticed by Topographers—The Authorities for its Early History—Literature of Lundy—Drayton's *Polyolbion*—Tableau—*Lundy Review*—Periodicals of Lundy—Topography—Hydrographical Description—Physical Features—Landing-places—Roadstead and Shipping—Communication with Mainland—Posts and Telegraph—Harbour of Refuge—Different Schemes for ditto—Difficulties in its way—Eastern and Western Coasts Contrasted—Singular Shape of Island.

IN the Bristol Channel, nearly facing the centre of Barnstaple Bay, but above twenty miles from the Bar, and almost in mid-channel, lies the Island of Lundy, sometimes invisible from the shore, but generally looming dim and mysterious, and more or less shrouded in mists, or capped with cloud-reefs; occasionally standing out lofty, clear, and distinct, bright with varied hues of rock, fern, and heather, its granite cliffs glittering as they reflect the rays of the morning sun, and the graceful lighthouse tower

and buildings plainly defined; or at night traceable by its strange intermittent light—either suddenly shining out as a star and as suddenly vanishing, or gradually rising and fading, according to the atmospheric conditions; but in all its aspects, varying much from day to day. And to those who know how to read them aright, the changing aspects of Lundy are the surest indications of approaching changes of weather—of winds, storms, or settled sunshine.

As seen nearer, the Island shows itself a lofty table-headed granite rock, rising to the average height of 500 feet, surrounded by steep and occasionally perpendicular cliffs, storm-beaten, riven, and scarred over with grisly seams and clefts, and hollowed out here and there along the shore into fantastic coves and grottoes, with huge piles of granite thrown in wild disorder. As an old author describes it, "So immured with rocks and impaled with beetle-browed cliffs, that there is no entrance but for friends." The cliffs and adjacent sea are alive with sea-birds, every ledge and jutting rock being dotted with them, or they are whirling round in clouds, filling the air with their discordant screams.

This Island, so little known, so little visited, so wild and mysterious in aspect, possesses an interest in its remote history, its antiquities, its physical features and peculiarities, and in its natural history, almost unrivalled; and it is singular that a place

with such a distinct history, and in old times filling a conspicuous place in our annals, should have remained comparatively unnoticed and unknown. Indeed, until recently, when the opening of the granite quarries, and the frequency of excursion steamers, called attention to it, very few indeed appear to have ever obtained any personal knowledge of the Island. It is equally singular that it has received such scant notice from historians and topographers. The more modern Devonshire histories barely noticing it, and the olden ones giving a few isolated details only; what has been said by almost all being summed up in a few lines, and the few fragmentary notices of its early history copied from each other. Indeed most of the sources of the authentic history of the Island were until recent years very inaccessible, and to be found only among the Public Records of the kingdom.

Before proceeding to any account of Lundy, I will just notice the authorities to which I am indebted for the materials of its early history. Stukely's *Itinerarium*, and an *English Chronicle*, attributed to Richard of Cirencester, refer to its name. Leland, in his *Collectanea*, quoting "ex Annalibus Thomæ Wike Canonici de Oseney;" Sir Thomas de la Moor, in his *Life of Edward II.;* Matthew Paris; and Stow in his *Annals of England;* narrate several facts and incidents of its remote history. Selden, in the Notes to Drayton's *Polyolbion;* Camden, Risdon, and West-

cote, in their several histories, and Grose, in his *Antiquities*, contain some rambling notices, the latter more especially giving a full account, illustrated by plan and views of the Castle and other remains of antiquity; and these different notices have been copied more or less imperfectly by, and form the foundation of, most of the modern county topographies and guide-books. Many other notices of the Island and incidents in its history are to be found scattered about in the Archæologia and old periodicals, and in Polwhele, and Prince's *Worthies of Devon*. The ecclesiastical registers have been examined and collected by Dr. Oliver, and set out in his *Monasticon Diocesis Exoniensis*, but are very scanty.

The principal source, however, of the ancient history of Lundy is to be found in the Public Records, Patent Rolls, Close Rolls, and Hundred Rolls, and in the inquisitions taken at the deaths of the different lords, or on escheats to the crown. These were carefully searched and the grants collated and translated in a valuable but diffusive paper, contributed by G. Steinman Steinman, Esq., to a periodical called *Collectanea Topographica*, about forty years since. He appears to have made a laborious and exhaustive search in the Record Office to trace successive descents with the genealogies of the grantees. But in addition to these sources of information, many curious local records have since turned up, and the publication by

the Record Office of the valuable *Calendars of State Papers* has made the domestic annals of the country, in which there are frequent references to Lundy, easily accessible. I would, however, remark that the accounts by the different authors referred to are frequently imperfect, and in many cases conflicting.

I am not aware that any systematic or exhaustive examination of the Flora or Fauna, or of its Botany, has been published; but many interesting notes and contributions have been made to various portions of its natural history and its geology, all of which are of a very marked and peculiar character, by occasional scientific visitors, some of which have appeared in various periodicals, and are referred to in the latter part of this volume.

What may be termed the literature of Lundy is not extensive. It is occasionally noticed by old English poets; but, except Drayton, they possess little interest. Risdon, Westcote, and others give quotations from some of them. That referring to the flight of Edward II. to Lundy, I will introduce in its proper place. Drayton, however, devotes a considerable part of two of the cantos, or songs, of his descriptive poem *Polyolbion*, to Lundy Island. The argument of the fourth song is:—

"England and Wales strive in this song;
To whether Lundy doth belong:
When either's nymphs, to clear the doubt,
By music mean to try it out.

This while in Sabrin's court strong factions strangely grew
Since Cornwal for her own, and as her proper due,
Claim'd Lundy, which was said to Cambria to belong,
Who oft had sought redress, for that her ancient wrong.

* * * * *

This Lundy is a nymph to idle toys inclin'd,
And all on pleasure set, doth wholly give her mind
To see upon her shore her fowl and conies fed,
And wantonly to hatch the birds of Ganymede.
Of traffic or return she never taketh care;
Not provident of pelf as many Islands are:
A lusty black-brow'd girl, with forehead broad and high,
That often had bewitched the sea-gods with her eye.
Of all the inlaid isles her sovereign Severn keeps,
That bathe their amorous breasts within her secret deeps
(To love her Barry much, and Scilly though she seem,
The Flat-holm and the Steep as likewise to esteem)
This noblest British nymph yet likes her Lundy best."

The argument is continued in some 500 verses, the decision appearing in the next canto—

"In this song Severn gives the doom,
What of her Lundy should become."

The reasons are summed up and finally concluded—

"Then take my final doom, pronounced lastly, this,
That Lundy like ally'd to Wales and England is."

The original edition of the *Polyolbion* has a curious embellishment—a tableau, in which every hill and river has its genius. The Nymph of Lundy is represented standing between Neptune and Amphitrite, a gannett on her head and two rabbits at her feet, while the opposite shores of England and Wales are thronged with nymphs bearing musical instru-

ments, as if clearing the doubt by a musical contest. There are some interesting notes to this poem, by the famous antiquarian Selden, referring to Lundy, and attempting an explanation of the description "Birds of Ganymede," which, with a great waste of learning, he imagines to be eagles or cranes; but another writer, criticising this, hits on, no doubt, the real explanation, that it was merely a paraphrase or poetic name for gannetts, the most common denizens of Lundy. The poetic description of Lundy, as "a lusty black-brow'd girl, with forehead broad and high," is very felicitous.

In 1824 a serial was published at Barnstaple under the name of *The Cave and Lundy Review, and Critical Revolving Light.* The name was a mere fanciful one, but in it appeared several incidental notices and many poetical descriptions and references to the Island, and among others, extracts from some very interesting manuscript journals of visits to Lundy in the years 1752 and 1787, the latter written or compiled by a party of gentlemen who accompanied Mr. Cleveland, the then owner, on a visit of inspection there.

Besides these, several historical sketches and notices of visits have appeared in periodicals from time to time, and the sensational incidents of the *Conspiracy of Marisco,* and the capture of the Island by the French in the reign of William III. have been frequently used in works of fiction, as have also some

of the passages in Benson's career; and though last, not least, Lundy has been taken by Canon Kingsley as the scene of the wreck of the Spanish admiral's ship, in *Westward Ho*, she being described as striking on the Shutter Rock, and Marisco Castle as the place where Amyas Leigh was taken after his being struck blind.

A very pleasant gossiping record of a visit there by Mr. P. H. Gosse, the naturalist, in 1852, appeared soon after in *Good Words*, and was subsequently republished more fully in a little volume called *Land and Sea*, to which (with his permission) I am indebted for some of the descriptions of scenery.

Before proceeding to a survey of the ancient history of Lundy, I will give a short general description of its natural and physical features, antiquities, and objects of interest. As before named, it is a little rocky island, in the Bristol Channel, just outside Barnstaple Bay, being 11 miles 6 furlongs north-west from Hartland Promontory, 16 miles from Baggy, and nearly 18 from Morte Point. The actual distance from the Bar is 19 miles and 1 furlong. Its exact geographical position (at the Lighthouse) is lat. 51·9 48 N., long. 4·39 27 W.

It is about 3½ miles long from north to south, but very irregular in breadth, which may be said to average half a mile, the greatest width from E. to W., according to the Admiralty chart, being 0·85 nautical mile, or 168 feet less than a statute mile.

The exact measurement, as well as the area, has been variously computed. The length as laid down in the Admiralty chart being only 2·6 nautical, equivalent to three statute miles, less 32 feet, while the area has been differently estimated as from 2,000 to 3,000 acres.

These variations may be explained by the admeasurements embracing or not the Cliffs and outlying rocks, and following or not the sinuosities of the surface. The circuit of the Island following the cliffs is estimated as a nine miles' walk.

The surface is elevated undulating table-land, forming an irregular plateau, rising nearly abruptly from the water about 450 feet high at the south, increasing to above 500, and gradually lessening again towards the north, which is about 410 feet by Aneroid. The surface also slopes gently towards the west. Beacon Hill, on which the lighthouse is built, is the highest point, and is 525 feet high. Tibbett's Hill, in the north-east, is only about 10 feet less in height.

The water is deep all round the Island, but the soundings show great irregularities in the form of the sea-bed, with the exception of two banks, one called the east, and the other the north-west, each of which has a minimum depth of six fathoms of water, and which are probably granite bosses protruding. The various soundings within a mile range from 10 to 15 fathoms along the shore, deepening in some places to

28 fathoms; but from the swell occasioned by its exposed situation in the tidal stream running round the south coast of Wales and up the Bristol Channel, and the great prevalence of wind, it is generally surrounded by surf, and there is always more or less of a race at the north end and off the S.W. and S.E. angles. The Admiralty charts give a rise of 27 feet on ordinary tides, 31 on equinoctial springs, and 20 on neaps. There is only one place where vessels can approach and boats safely land; this is at the south-east corner, which here curves round to the east, and diminishes in height by a series of gradations narrowing to a neck of land forming the peninsula of Lametor, and terminating in Rat Island and outlying rocks. This south-east prolongation of the slates affords a certain amount of shelter from the prevalent south-west drift of the Atlantic, forming a bay with good anchorage, pretty well protected; and at this point is a small shingle, or rather pebbly beach. Sir John Warren began to build a quay here; but it was never finished, though good materials were abundant. The beach is principally composed of the *débris* of the slates, intermixed with pebbles of granite, blue grit, quartz, porphyries of several varieties, and a few chalk flints. So long ago as 1787 it was remarked by a visitor that the narrow neck of land was crumbling away, and should the sea make a breach through it, the lying in the Road would be dangerous for shipping.

The lee side of the Island is, however, generally smooth and calm, so that there are frequently a large number of vessels lying to under its shelter when the gale is heavy from the west; from 30 or 40 to 100 being no uncommon number, and on one occasion 300 vessels were in sight, and 170 of good size anchored at once in the roadstead.

When the wind is easterly, landing is sometimes effected on the south or west sides, according to the more or less northing or southing of the wind, though with difficulty and some danger, as it involves a climb up the precipitous cliffs, with little in the way of path to help one.

There is no regular passenger communication with the shore. Skiffs run occasionally from Clovelly, and there is frequent casual communication by the Pill pilot boats, who come down the Channel and anchor in the bay on the look-out for ships, and in summer by occasional excursion steamers from Ilfracombe and Barnstaple.

Until recently the postal communication was uncertain; but there is now a regular post, *vid* Instow, every alternate Thursday, and the Trinity House has a communication by skiff from Clovelly on the first and fifteenth of every month. It is now in contemplation to extend the telegraph from Clovelly, the merchants and others connected with the shipping trade of Cardiff and other ports in the Bristol Channel having memorialized the Postmaster-General, praying

for the establishment of telegraphic communication with Lundy Island. The memorial is based mainly on the fact stated by them, that during the winter numbers of vessels run for shelter in westerly gales under the lee of Lundy, and are detained there sometimes for days, causing anxiety and alarm to the owners, and more particularly to the friends of the crews. It is estimated that as many as 1,000,000 vessels passed Lundy Island during the past year, and if there had been telegraphic communication with the shore these vessels might all have been reported. In a leading article on the subject, the *Shipping Gazette* remarks that the establishment of telegraphic communication between Lundy Island and the mainland would immediately be followed by the establishment of a signal station for working the International Code. The question of a compliance with the prayer of the Cardiff memorial will no doubt be regarded by the Post-office as one of expense merely. But the distance between Lundy and the mainland is so short that the cost of laying the cable and establishing a telegraph station would not be much, while the revenue to be derived from ships' reports and messages would be considerable; and if worked in connection with an *International Code* Signal Station would probably be a remunerative undertaking, as it is unquestionably a present necessity for the trade of the Bristol Channel.

The desirability of forming a harbour of refuge at

Lundy has been under discussion for many years, and so long back as 1857 it was suggested by a select committee of the House of Commons. In 1859 a Royal Commission investigated the subject, and reported "that a refuge harbour at the entrance of the Bristol Channel would confer a great benefit on trade and navigation, and that at Lundy Island is to be found a site in every respect well adapted for such a harbour, except the important one of expense, the depth of water and consequent cost being so great as to preclude the possibility of recommending it at present." It appears by this report that out of 173 wrecks in the Bristol Channel in 1856–57, 97 received their damage, and 44 lives were lost, east of Lundy, while 76 vessels were lost or damaged, and 58 lives sacrificed, west of Lundy, thus showing the Island to be nearly in the centre of the dangerous parts.

Only three localities for the proposed harbour were maintained before the Commission—Clovelly, Lundy, and the Mumbles. It was claimed in favour of Lundy, over and above the pre-eminence of its situation, that the acquisition of land and houses there would be cheap, and the materials for the work good, easily obtained, and in any quantity; but against this was suggested the difficulties—of the Island being so frequently fog-capped as to render it, as well as the lights, invisible; that the tideway in the races set so strong, with baffling winds, as to render

the approach difficult; that there was no beach which a leaky vessel could be run up on; and that the Island possessed no resources for supplies or repairs.

But the main point which decided the report of the Commissioners was that of cost, as their conclusion was, that "the depth of water in which the breakwater must necessarily be placed is so great as to occasion a cost of construction not to be thought of, unless a field for convict labour is required." The only plan that came before the Commissioners was to erect two piers, one running out from Gull Rock in an easterly direction, leaving an opening of a quarter of a mile; the other pier would run from the former round to Rat Island, leaving an entrance between it and the land. The whole breakwater would then be about a mile and three quarters long, and would enclose an area of about 714 acres. An estimate has been made that this would cost nearly three millions.

Another proposal has since been put forth—to construct a harbour further north, at a place where the Gannett rock, standing just in front of a projecting point of land, forms a small bay somewhat deeper than a semi-circle, which could easily be made a safe refuge by carrying on a pier or breakwater so as to narrow the entrance to the cove. Nothing however has been done further in the matter.

Until the introduction of steam power rendered navigation less dependent on the state of the wind, the difficulty of getting to Lundy was only exceeded

by the difficulty of getting away. A sudden shift of wind has often kept visitors for weeks; and one amusing instance is on record of a party composed of the incumbents of five or six parishes on the adjoining coast, who had combined for a day's pleasant excursion and investigation of the wonders of Lundy, being detained there over two Sundays, to the dismay of their respective congregations. Even now the postal communication in winter is uncertain, and the proprietors and residents on the Island have devised a system of signals by fires on a certain height for cases of emergency. A scientific visitor, in 1844, Mr. Wollaston,—rather magnifying the difficulties, and somewhat piteously, describes it as "actually inaccessible except in the calmest weather; the few inhabitants it contains being frequently shut out of all communication with the mainland for months together, and nowhere is the good old proverb, *Incidit in Scyllam qui vult vitare Charybdim*, more strongly illustrated than it is here; for with the slightest breeze from the east, the most distant chance of landing, on account of the numberless rocks, is destroyed, as while guarding against perils from the west, you stand a chance of being overtaken by worse ones from the east. The danger attending the passage in a small boat, and the improbability of being able to land when you get there, are reasons of themselves quite sufficient to deter people from visiting a spot apparently so dreary."

From the landing-place a good carriage-road winds up through a little valley or ravine, forming the only access to the summit of the Island. This road was made some years since by the present proprietor of the Island, the Trinity House paying him an annual sum for permission to use it, and towards keeping it in repair. In olden time the only ascent was by a steep narrow path through the ravine, just wide enough for a horse to pass, which led up to a platform where two roads met, one conducting to the Castle and the other to the Island generally; and at this point are traces of an ancient wall, at each side of the way, built to guard the entrance, where, it is said, there was a gate and heavy chains formerly fixed.

The shape is very irregular, and has been fancifully described by Mr. Gosse as somewhat resembling that of an oak leaf, being considerably sinuated in outline, and the narrow peninsula of Lametry constituting its southern extremity, with Rat Island as its termination, he calls the footstalk of the leaf. This peninsular end curves round to the eastward.

The western coast of the Island, although not loftier, is bolder and more abrupt than the eastern. The precipices attain grander proportions, and are more broken; shallow coves and lofty promontories occur all along; and the massive granite rocks are piled in blocks, often resembling the work of human hands, or jut up into pinnacles; and the lofty perpendicular cliffs, pierced with galleries and passages, with

the sea perpetually breaking in foam at their base, give a wildness and romantic aspect to this side of the Island not to be seen elsewhere. The eastern line of coast, as viewed from the road above the landing-place, presents a curious appearance. The gray cliffs rise nearly perpendicular from the sea to a height of from one to two hundred feet. Then a broad, steep slope, green or russet-brown, according to the season (being overgrown with ferns), very even and regular, locally called the "Sidelands" or "Sidings," carries up the elevation to four or five hundred feet, when the flat summit commences, and on this side there is a succession of dells and fern-covered slopes at an angle of about 30°, terminating in the lower range of cliffs. The base of the cliffs on both sides is for the most part studded with huge rounded boulders of granite, invested with a coating of green sea-weed, which are only approachable at low water, and several detached rocks or islets bristle up in the sea outside the cliffs.

CHAPTER II.

ROUND THE COAST.

Perambulation of the Island—Sugar-loaf Rock—Granite Quarries and Jetty—Half-way Wall—Logan Stone—Templar Rock—Tibbett's Hill—Round Tower—Brazen Ward—Mousehole—Gannett Rock—Constable—North-east Corner—Slope and Boulders—Sea Birds—North-west Point—Hen and Chickens—Fresh-water Spring in Sea—West Side—The Cheeses—Stratification—The Earthquake—Extraordinary Fissures—Probable Causes—Punch-bowl Valley—Caves—Seal Cavern—Benjamin's Chair—The Black Rock—Shutter Rock—Devil's Limekiln—Deep Chasm—The Rattles—Marisco Castle—Benson's Cave—Peninsula of Lametor—Rat Island.

IN making a circuit round the Island by the coast line from the landing-place, several remarkable features present themselves. Passing the Sugar-loaf Rock on the eastern coast, the watering-place, and the quarter wall built by Benson's convicts, we come to the abandoned granite quarries and jetty, and near their termination is the half-way wall, a massive rough stone fence dividing the Island transversely, and just at its eastern end is a large parallel-sided block of granite about fifteen feet high and eight wide, elevated on a huge granite substructure, in a

crevice of which it rests, by a very small base. It was formerly a true logan stone, capable of being rocked easily by the hands of any one standing on its narrow and lofty base; and this was the case until very recently, as, according to the statement of Mr. Heaven to Mr. Gosse, it had often been rocked by him. Now, however, it has slipped out of its equilibrium, and is immovable, the action of the weather having worn away the point on which it rested.

A little beyond the half-way wall is the Templar Rock, a mass of granite, standing out from a projecting point, accidentally fashioned by nature into so perfect a resemblance to human features when seen in relief against the sky, that one can scarcely believe that it has not been touched by an artist's chisel. Passing beneath Tibbett's Hill, and by the site of one of the old Round Towers, off which lies the Gull Rock and Tibbett's Point, the surface level trends downwards and the cliffs lower. Here in the time of Charles I. a fort was erected, which was furnished with brass cannon. Local tradition commemorates this circumstance in the name, "The Brazen Ward," still applied to this point; the old brass guns themselves having been visible in calm weather deep in the water, whither they had been thrown over by the French when the Island was taken by them, and so remained until a few years since, when they were fished up and recovered by

the tenant of the farm, and sold to Mr. Crawshay, who, it was understood, mounted them in his yacht.

A little way beyond the "Brazen Ward" there is, on a projecting headland, a large square block of granite with one end resting on a smaller piece, exactly as a brick is tilted up on a stick as a mouse-trap. The block rests on a smooth platform, and stands in relief against the sky, while just behind it there is a natural perforation in the rock, through which the light streams. The Mouse-trap and Mouse-hole are the designations applied to these curious objects.

Further on, still keeping the eastern side, a combe or deep valley, or rather gully, runs down; the bottom is very soft and boggy from one of the streamlets which spring out of the upper plateau running into it, and the rank vegetation of tussock grass holding the water. Through this gully the Gannett Rock is visible. This is an insular mass lying off a projecting headland, forming a cove behind it, and this place has been suggested as the best site for a harbour of refuge. This rock is continually referred to in the early records of the Island, and was, as shown by its name, the principal resort of the Gannetts. A little beyond, the north end of the Island is reached. Here the rocks are piled in wild confusion; and among them on the Rocky Slope—one in the shape of a pyramid, called the Constable; for, saith Risdon, "It seemeth to keep

watch as a centinel." Another mass further out is named the Seal's Rock, and on the summit is an old ruin called John o'Groat's house.

The broad slope of ferns surmounting the cliff, which hitherto marked the eastern coast, has here ceased, and the land terminates at the north-east in an inclined plane extending for perhaps half a mile down to the sea, composed of *débris*, vegetable matter, and guano, forming a sort of reddish spongy earth, with large hillocks of thrift and numberless boulders of granite heaped irregularly. All around here is the chief resort of the wilder variety of the sea-birds, the loose soil being honeycombed with their nests, the hillocks between crowded with them, and the ledges and shelves of rock white with the accumulated deposits of guano. As we approach the north-western point, which forms a bold broken promontory, the slopes of earth and *débris* give place to huge castellated masses of granite piled together in grand confusion, fringed with great insular rocks, bristling up amid the sea, of all sizes and shapes, some covered with the tide at high-water, on which it dashes in a never-ceasing cloud of foam. A group of these insular rocks lying off the shore are designated the Hen and Chickens. Looking over the margin of the cliffs, the scenery at this point has an almost unimaginable wildness and grandeur. At one place a projecting promontory is pierced by a sort of tunnel 60 feet in height and about 800 in length,

through which a boat can sail at high-water; but the most interesting fact connected with it is, that a spring of fresh water rises in its centre, bubbling up through the sea-water, and is called the Virgin's Well.

The west side of the Island throughout presents the same wild, broken aspect, with precipitous cliffs of granite broken and contorted, with frequent recesses and projecting headlands. Some of these have local designations, as St. James's Stone, the Devil's Chimney, &c. Near the half-way wall, the granite pinnacles have a strangely rounded aspect, and are locally designated the "Cheeses." In their general contour they somewhat resemble basaltic columns, standing erect, with a series of segments resting one on another to a varying but considerable height, the edges of these segments, at the points of junction, being worn and rounded away, and not badly described as representing a pile of cheeses.

The granite all along here is more or less stratified with frequent dislocations, and further on occurs a curious phenomenon, locally called the "Earthquake." It consists of a chasm, or rather series of chasms, running for a considerable distance in a line irregularly parallel to the cliff, evidently due to some vast and deep-seated movement of the earth's crust.

The width of the larger clefts may vary from 10 to 20 feet, and the depth varying from 20 to 80 feet, as measured; but in some places the fissures evi-

dently extend much deeper, being too narrow for measurement. The sides are generally quite perpendicular. The whole ground round about for some distance is much shaken, and broken into fissures. Still nearer the edge of the cliff is a second range of smaller clefts, the rocky sides of which are from three to six feet apart, and going down to nearly double the depth of the wider ones. By scrambling down the fissures, glimpses may be obtained through slender cracks and crevices into cavities below, apparently large, but utterly dark. Some curious minerals have been found in these clefts; among others some large amethysts, so called, but probably fluor spar. Judging from the solidity of the underlying cliffs at this point, and the distance of the clefts from the edge, it is difficult to explain this dislocation as a mere result of landslip or sinkage by undermining. The popular name explains not only the local opinion, but also that of many visitors, as to its origin, and local tradition confidently assigns its first appearance to the same date as the great earthquake at Lisbon, in 1755; but a more competent judge, who has carefully examined the place, has hazarded the conjecture, that as there is scarcely an instance in which it can be found, even after the most careful investigation, that a local tradition is totally devoid of foundation, these extraordinary fissures, which cannot be the result of an ordinary landslip, as the rocks are fractured in right angles to

their line of strike, nor of anything peculiar in the structure of the granite, as the clefts also extend in the same direction through the clay shale, and are visible near the castle, might be attributed to some still greater disturbance in pre-historic times, and that the subsequent earthquake of 1755 might have caused a further displacement of the rock masses already loosened and ready to fall; thus affording a not unreasonable ground on which to establish the tradition of the place.

The dislocation of the strata extends in a more or less degree for a distance of above two miles, commencing on the southern coast and stretching along in a northerly direction at a short distance from the edge of the cliffs. The place where its effects, if not most strongly marked, are at least most strikingly observable, is at a point just north of the quarter wall which divides the Island. Here there are two distinct lines of deep fissures, parallel to each other, and about seventy or eighty feet apart, the intervening mass of granite being also split up by many other minor fissures, and depressed to the extent of from fifteen to twenty feet. Several of the cracks near this spot are sufficiently wide to allow of a person creeping through them, and by descending the natural steps formed by the joints in the granite, it is possible to penetrate beneath some of the larger blocks, which, meeting with some obstacle, have been arrested in their descent, and to see in the still greater depths

beneath the earth, the continuation of those effects which have been left so clearly impressed upon its surface.

Near this is the Punch-bowl Valley, the course of a little brook, the largest one which discharges on the western side. The line of coast towards the south-west corner is very sinuous and contorted, and the cliffs of granite much broken and hollowed out by the never-ceasing dash of the Atlantic wave, and many singular caves exist at their base. The most notable one is at the south end, and is called the Seal Cave from being the resort of these animals, at times in considerable numbers. The ordinary means of approach to it is by a boat in calm weather. It can, however, be reached at the low-water of spring tides by a dangerous descent over the cliffs. The cave is very well known, as it has been the great object of attraction to adventurous sportsmen, whose main purpose in visiting the Island has been a campaign against those interesting but timid animals. The approach to the cave on the land side is by scrambling down a narrow track, just at the junction of the shale and granite, past a spot where a square cavity in the granite forms a seat called Benjamin's Chair, and thence round the face of the cliff by means of narrow slanting ledges and the aid of a ladder, used to pass from one ledge to another, until it is reached. The cave itself is a vault sixty feet in height and twelve in width, with a sandy bottom at its inner part gra-

dually rising and getting narrower and darker, until there is scarcely room to pass, and then suddenly opening into a spacious and lofty chamber to which the seals resort, and this again opens into smaller chambers beyond. At the extreme south-west the granite ends in a bold headland and off-lying dangerous rock called the Black Rock, sometimes confounded with the Shutter Rock which is inside it, and just by is the extraordinary cavity or quadrangular opening, locally known by the name of the Devil's Limekiln, which appears to have been in some measure caused by the same great convulsion of nature as the earthquake clefts, aided and directed probably by the decomposition of two small parallel trap dykes, and the granite included between them. On approaching this opening by a steep descent from the summit of the cliffs, it is found to consist of four walls of granite; the north and south sides being perfectly smooth planes or faces of rock, which gradually narrow, as they descend, into a funnel-shaped opening, having at its bottom two diverging passages or tunnels communicating with the sea. The other two sides of this chasm are absolutely perpendicular, but the surfaces of the granite are partially decomposed, and broken by joints and fissures. The depth of this remarkable pit, as measured from the top of the cliff on its highest side, down to the tunnels at the bottom, which are a little above the sea level, is about 370 feet.

Of this curious cavity I also append the graphic description of Mr. Gosse: "Close to the south-west corner of the Island we came rather suddenly upon the first object of our curiosity. In the midst of the heath-covered slope yawned a terrific chasm, into which it made us shudder to look. Its form is irregularly square at the top, where it is about 250 feet wide. The sides in some parts are quite perpendicular, but gradually approach each other at the bottom, so as to resemble a funnel. The distant bottom of this hole was strewn with large blocks of alabaster, some of them 20 feet high. Among these there is at one side a narrow door-like opening, which leads by a natural tunnel to the beach at the foot of the cliffs. This affords the only means of access into the chasm, and is from the precipitous character of the coast available only with a boat, and in calm weather; for when there is any swell the sea dashes furiously into the tunnel. One part of the margin of the chasm forms a slender ridge, like a wall, dividing it from a very steep declivity. Along this precarious path you can scramble on hands and knees to gain a better view of the recesses of the abyss. We turned our gaze seaward, there we beheld a vast cone of granite, almost insulated from the shore. The fishermen and inhabitants believe that this rock, if it could be turned over into the Limekiln, would exactly fit and close it. Hence they have named it the Shutter Rock."

The granite terminates in a deep bay called the Rattles. The clay shale, of which a small patch of the south-east corner of the Island consists, here commences, and on this corner are the ruins of Marisco Castle, standing almost on the brow of the cliff, with its outworks running along the extreme verge of the precipice.

A few yards below the Castle where the sward slopes steeply downward is a large grotto or chamber excavated out of the rock, a long slab resting on two upright ones forming the entrance. This is called Benson's Cave, having been formerly used by him as a storehouse, but it bears marks of great antiquity.

To the south-east of the Castle plateau extends the peninsula of Lametor, or Lametry, precipitous on every side, and joined to the main by a ridge or neck of rock, running up to a sharp broken edge, and beyond this is a small off-lying islet called Rat Island, which together form the south horn of the little Bay, from which we started in our circuit.

CHAPTER III.

CLIMATE AND CONFIGURATION.

Springs and Streamlets—Eminences and Valleys—Subdivisions of Island—Climate—Winds—Snow and Frost—Equableness of Temperature—Rainfall—Ground Sea—Effects of Fog—Mirage.

LUNDY is not destitute of fresh water, which is in general soft and pure. Springs abound in many parts, and there is evidence of two or three large artificial ponds having formerly existed. Several small streamlets ooze out of the upland, and find their way through narrow valleys or gulleys to the sea.

The spongy nature of the soil causes the course of these streams to form bogs in most places. Grose, writing in 1775, gives a full account of these little streamlets. "In the south division are St. Helen's, St. John's, and Parson's Wells, from the two first of which flow rivulets discharging themselves down two valleys on the east side of the Island. In the middle division there is a spring called Golden Well, and two rivulets towards the north end of this division,

one discharging on the east side and the other on the west, down Punch-bowl Valley. The north Island has no springs, but is very dry and barren."

The summit of the Island generally has a great sameness of character, slightly undulating with a few eminences; the Beacon Hill and Tippett's Hill being the highest. The only valleys affording any extent of shelter are those in which Mr. Heaven's mansion is built, called Millcombe, having been the site of a water-mill formerly, and Gannet's Combe, which is considerably larger, and in parts more sheltered than Millcombe.

The half-way wall before referred to divides the Island into two portions—the upper being called the North farm, or locally the Widow's tenement, and is for the most part bare and unprofitable, producing only heath and coarse herbage. The southern portion is again subdivided by a wall into two halves, called the Middle and South farms. The latter only is now in tillage cultivation.

Numerous walls, banks, and foundations occur over the whole Island, and many small enclosures are traceable. In some parts about the middle, where the land is low in comparison with the rest, and the soil deeper, you find it enclosed with large stones set in the earth endwise; and the remains of dams or pond-heads show that the little streamlets were once turned to good account. In traversing the Island the visitor is struck by the white glittering

appearance of the ground, it being thinly covered in many places with white gravel, composed of cubes or nodules of quartz set free by the decomposition of the granite.

The climate of the Island, as may be expected from its situation, is of a very peculiar character. The westerly winds have in consequence of its slope to the west a clear sweep over its surface, and are at times so violent as to clear off not only the growth, but the very earth and soil, down to the bare rock in exposed situations, and there are occasional instances of cattle and stock being blown over the cliff; but there are weeks and months together in which these winds are not more injurious to vegetation than on the mainland. And the winds, even when at their greatest force, seem never to have the biting keenness and blighting effects on vegetation which are often seen in exposed situations on the adjoining coasts, and plants recover from the shaking and bruising effects of a gale of wind in a wonderful way here. The position of the Island to the prevalent winds, also makes the east side a lee side for the greater period of the year, and consequently quite sheltered from the most violent gales. Snow never lies any length of time, but imperceptibly, as it were, vanishes away as it falls, even during the sharpest frost. Ice is rare, and not once in a dozen years is frozen hard enough to bear; and many seasons pass without its being formed, even on the most exposed

ponds, beyond a mere film, and never forms more than a mere superficial crust on the soil, and often not at all for many years. Some years since Mr. Heaven kept a regular thermometrical register, and found, by comparison with similar records kept in various parts of the mainland, that the temperature averaged from seven to twelve Fahrenheit less in the summer, and about the same higher in the winter, showing great comparative equableness of climate. No doubt this is partly the result of the Island being exposed to the full influence of the Gulf Stream. No account of the rainfall has been kept continuously; but from a rough register kept for a short time, Mr. Heaven considered it to be less than on the adjoining coasts. A singular phenomenon is not uncommonly seen. The rain-clouds, driving up the Channel with a south-westerly wind, on approaching the Island appear to split, as it were, one portion turning to the Welsh coast, and the other parts precipitating their rain on the highlands of North Devon. This is especially the case with thunder-storms, so that it frequently happens that the Island is quite clear, while both the adjoining coasts are flooded. Storms from the west are generally presaged by a heavy ground sea, sometimes as long as three days previously. These singular under currents, which stir up the ocean bed, and cause a great surface-swell, but without breaking, are always forerunners of wind, or of dirty, heavy weather.

Undoubtedly the moisture on the Island is great from the prevalence of fogs and watery mists. Indeed, the great drawback to Lundy is the amount of fog and cloud which exist throughout the year; though probably this has been overrated, as the longest continuous period that the signal gun at the fog-gun station has been obliged to be fired since its establishment, some fifteen years ago, has been 72 hours. Some curious effects of fog have been noticed as frequently occurring; it has a tendency to lie in thin strata, generally just resting on the heights, so that the lighthouse and elevated points are invisible, while the sides and beach are perfectly free from cloud or mist. Not unfrequently the fog hangs for weeks over the Island, and then is lifted suddenly; sometimes the lower portion only is veiled. Most generally it is not a thick, dense fog, but a light, vapoury, transparent mist, in which objects at a few yards' distance appear magnified to three times their actual size. A phenomenon akin to mirage also sometimes appears, and the outline of the Island, as viewed from the shore, and of ships sailing under it, are often lifted and distorted.

Of late years, under instructions from the Trinity House, regular meteorological observations are recorded at the lighthouse and fog-signal station, which may hereafter be serviceable for clearly defining the climate of Lundy; but they are not yet available.

CHAPTER IV.

ANTIQUITIES.

Ruins—Marisco Castle—Strongly Fortified at various epochs—St. Helen's Chapel—Round Towers—Old Batteries—John O'Groat's house—Prehistoric Relics—The Punch-bowl—Tumuli—Kistvaen—Sepultures—Stone Cists—Gigantic Skeletons—Relics in the Stone Graves—Danish Period—Battle of Kenwith Castle.

BEFORE proceeding to an account of the history and antiquities, I would notice what remains of the ancient buildings and other memorials of ancient importance which can now be traced. By far the most important of these is Marisco Castle. There is no record of the date of its erection, but it was certainly in existence as early as the eleventh century, when Sir Jordan de Marisco was the lord. That bold chieftain, in his days of lawless violence, possessed an admirable site for his stronghold. The thick outer walls ran along the extreme verge of the cliffs, and the position overlooks and commands, not only the bay and landing-place, but the whole southern coast of the Island.

A description of the Castle, with two engravings

of the ruins, is given in Grose's *Antiquities.* They are now much demolished; the keep alone remains, and this is converted into cottages. The basement wall is nine feet in thickness; the lines of bastions and fosse are evident. Its state in 1787 is described in one of the manuscript journals before alluded to, entitled *Journal of the Time we spent in the Island of Lundy, July 4th, 1787:* "Sailed from Appledore in the *Viper,* sloop-of-war, commanded by Lieut. Chrymes, with Mr. Cleveland, Capt. Barton, N. Cutcliffe, and Rev. Mr. Smith, of Westleigh. We weighed anchor at eight in the morning, and arrived safe, after a pleasant voyage, at three the same day. We went to the house which Sir J. Warren built for his own residence. You ascend into the Island by a narrow path just wide enough for a horse to get up, which leads to a platform where two roads meet; one conducts you to the Castle, the other to the house. At some distance from the landing-place are the remains of an ancient wall, built to guard the entrance. Walked in the evening to the Castle, or rather its site; the Castle is entirely demolished. It stood at the extreme south of the Island, facing Hartland Point, on two acres of ground, and was surrounded by a stone wall, with a ditch, excepting towards the sea, where the rock is almost perpendicular. The ditch is very visible, and part of the wall, though most of them have been destroyed for the purpose of building offices for farming. The walls of the Citadel

are very perfect, of a square form. It is converted into cottages, the turrets, of which there are four, one to each angle, serving as chimneys. The south-west wall is fifty-one feet, the north-west thirty-eight feet in length. In front of the house five guns were planted. The garrison was supplied with water from a spring, which rises above the house built by Sir John Warren. It was conveyed from thence in earthern pipes. At the extremity of the rock, within the fortification, is a cave, supposed to be cut out of the rock for a store-room, or magazine, for the garrison; its form shows its great antiquity."

Much damage was done to the Castle by the Irish labourers who were introduced by Sir Aubrey de Vere Hunt. They destroyed all the remaining woodwork, and amongst other things, the old entrance-gates and posts which had been placed there at the time when the Castle was prepared for the refuge of Edward II. There appears to have been a barbican or outer tower to protect the entrance on the land side.

That it was originally a fortification of considerable strength is evident. It appears to have been re-fortified, and probably remodelled in the time of the civil wars. A few of the old dismounted cannon of that period, which were thrown over by the French in the reign of William III., are still to be seen on the beach at low-water. About half a mile from the Castle to the northward is the ruin, or rather the site,

of St. Helen's Chapel, with the attached Oratory of St. Anne. They are described in the *Ecclesiastical Notice.* The traces of several round towers, the origin and use of which are not known, still remain. These are supposed to be of great antiquity, and from the descriptions which have been handed down, appear to have had many of the characteristics of the Irish round towers, in shape, size, and position of the doorways much above the ground level, which may be explained by the intimate associations of the earlier Marisco lords with Ireland. Other accounts suggest their having been built as places of refuge for the Islanders from invaders and pirates. They must have been carefully and strongly built with worked or selected stone, united not by lime mortar, but with a tenacious clay cement, probably hardened by fire. Most of them are now razed to the ground, showing only heaps of ruins. The most perfect is about the middle of the north part of the Island, on an elevation just west of Tippett's Hill. The inner diameter is 15 feet; only a few feet of the lower part, and that much buried in *débris*, now remains. Another stood until recently just above the landing-place.

The batteries planted round the Island, at the period of the civil wars and subsequently, have now mostly disappeared, but the old walls remain in some instances, particularly at the Brazen Ward and North-east Point. They are built with mortar, and

thus distinguished from the Castle, which, as well as the old towers, have a peculiar hardened clay cement, as before stated.

I here again quote from the *Journal* of 1787 for a description of them as they then appeared:—"You find on many parts of the Island where there was the least chance of landing, upwards of forty ancient structures of stonework, some without any cement, and others strongly united with it, on which guns were planted in Queen Anne's war with the French when the enemy greatly infested the coasts of the Bristol Channel. I saw the remains of one of the guns on a platform facing the east, which was burst with powder, and another gun on the beach near the landing-place. Every accessible part was strongly fortified, and could be defended by few hands, as the coast is almost perpendicular and the rocks of a great height."

Grose also refers to the remains of a house near St. Helen's Well—a watch-house, near the landing-place, and another at the north end. This latter is still to be seen, a small square building now called John o'Groat's House, so named by some Scotchmen who rented the fowling some sixty years ago, and who probably rebuilt or repaired the older building. Although now little more than a ruin, it is occasionally used by visitors and sportsmen as a place of rest and luncheon-room, as is also one in Gannett's Combe, called the Summer House. Various small

mounds also exist scattered about the Island with traces of walls, supposed to mark the sites of cottages; some of them have traditional names assigned to them, as "Jock's House," the "Widow's House," and around them are found growing many old-fashioned herbs, now unknown or rarely met with, and whose appearance there can only be explained by the assumption that they once formed the stock of the cottage gardens, and have remained persistent in the soil.

These are all mere mediæval relics; but there is no lack on the Island of others, which appear to point to a much more remote and pre-historic period. Some instances, such as the Logan Stone, Dolmen, and rock basins, which visionary or enthusiastic observers used generally to ascribe to the Druids and their worship, matter-of-fact judges are disposed in most cases to refer to mere natural causes; and perhaps the same may be, in part at least, the case with another very curious object of which I take the description given by Mr. Gosse:—"Lying on the side of a valley, which takes its name from the object itself, the Punch-bowl Valley (through which runs a little brook, which originates near the middle of the Island, forming there a small lake or pond), is a basin of solid granite, four feet in diameter and one in depth, with a uniform thickness of six inches. Both the concave and convex surfaces are segments of very perfect spheres, and the whole conformation is

so regular as scarcely to admit a doubt that it is the work of art; and yet when we enquire what could be the purpose of such a piece of sculpture, or how it could have got to a situation so wild, so remote from any trace of man, and altogether so unlikely as the side of this boggy valley, especially considering that its weight must have presented no small obstacle to its removal from any other locality, we know not what answer can be returned." The only suggestion that Mr. Gosse makes is the rather lame one, that it may have been the baptismal font of some very ancient chapel, of which no other vestige now remains. The Tumuli are objects of more undoubted antiquity. They are generally small in extent, and have been for the most part so levelled down by time and weather, as to give little temptation to explore them; but in one case a kist-vaen, or sepulchral chamber, an undoubted relic of far antiquity, was laid bare. This chamber was inspected and described by Mr. Gosse just after its discovery in 1851, and when it was the wonder of the little Island's population. "One of the men had noticed in a particular part of the moor that the earth returned a hollow sound. On digging, a block of granite was found a little below the surface; it was about eighteen inches thick, and was estimated to weigh five tons. Its ends rested on two upright slabs, enclosing a cavity some six feet deep and as many wide. It was evident that the excavation had

been made and the stones placed by human labour, and the latter operation must have been one of no small difficulty from the great weight of the slabs; but for what purpose it could have been made, there was no clue to inform us. No subterraneous passage was observed, though the earth on one side was so loose as to suggest the notion that such a communication might once have existed. A fragment of pottery was the only object found. There was a rank odour in the cavity very different from that of newly-turned soil; the earth too at one end was black, and of an unctuous appearance, but no trace of bone or other organized matter could be found."

Mr. Gosse goes on to say that the appearance of this rude structure resembled that of the monument known as Wayland Smith's Cave, in Berkshire, which was unquestionably a monument of the early British period, and where the earth had accumulated until it was level with the flat slab, and it was possible that the construction, the opening of which he saw at Lundy, might have an antiquity as great as its counterpart in Berkshire, or perhaps even greater, seeing that the huge upper slab was here quite covered with the common mould. But by far the most interesting relic of pre-historic times was discovered in 1850. In digging some foundations near the farm-house, a place of sepulture of a very unusual character was laid bare. It consisted, first, of two stone coffins, or cists, built up with large square

blocks of granite, the covers squared, and formed of a single block each. They were not flat-topped, but with a sideways slope, and were just deep enough to allow the bodies to be placed in them. The coffins were placed side by side. The first was just ten feet long, and had within it a stone rest, or pillow, for the head, and another for the feet. The head-rest was formed of a cubic piece of fine granite, with a deep depression carefully worked out in it exactly the size and shape to allow a head lying sideways to rest in the hollow. The other cist was much the same, only without the pillow, and was only about eight feet long. The large one was more than half filled up round and over the skeleton with limpet shells, and both were covered with several inches of soil.

Each of these tombs contained a skeleton of unusual size. That in the first coffin with the stone pillow and foot-rest was gigantic, and, had there not been satisfactory evidence on the subject, would have been considered incredible. The second skeleton was also several inches above the average height, and was imagined to be that of a woman.

Mr. Heaven was present at the discovery, and had the large skeleton carefully measured as it lay, before the bones were allowed to be moved. It was quite perfect, and the bones all in place when the measure was taken. It proved to be eight feet two inches long. After this one of the workmen, a man of average stature, took up the shin bone of the leg,

and to compare it, placed it against his own leg, when it reached more than half way up his thigh from his foot, and the lower jaw bone easily fitted over his lower jaw outside his beard, whiskers and all.

There were seven other skeletons buried in the same line with the stone graves, but without coffins and of the ordinary stature, and then came a mass of bones of all sorts and sizes, as if many corpses of men, women, and children had been thrown indiscriminately into a common grave or pit. A few sherds of red pottery and some very peculiar beads were mixed with the bones. Some of the beads were of semi-opaque light blue stone or glass, most of them spherical, but others a peculiar dumb-bell shape. And there were also some fragmentary remains of ornaments of copper or bronze, which were apparently hollow, and about the size of a walnut; but unfortunately no careful search or investigation was made, and the bones were immediately re-interred, and only a few of the beads, which were pierced, have been preserved. A large quantity of limpet shells lay over the heap. The place is called by the workmen, "The Giants' Graves."

It is most difficult to assign an era, or to account for this sepulture; the remains of women and children preclude the idea of its betokening the slain in a battle, but rather the indiscriminate slaughter of an entire population. But then the elaborate character

of the two stone cists remains unaccounted for, as well as their peculiar shape and the gigantic contents. It is said that human bones have occasionally been ploughed up in various other parts of the Island, all of which, as well as this remarkable sepulture, I would refer to the early British or Celtic period. One visitor, however, has considered the graves as of Danish fashion, referring them to the period of the great battle of Kenwith Castle, near Appledore, in 894, when the raven standard was taken, and Hubba slain. It having been the custom of the Danes to remove their dead, and Lundy would be the nearest point to which the defeated army and ships could retreat. I much doubt, however, this suggestion, as neither Hubba, his brother Hingvar, nor any of the Danish chieftains, are recorded as having been of such unusual stature, or certainly the Saxon Chronicle, Asser, and others who have given so many minute particulars of these heroes and of the battle itself, would have noticed it.

In reference to this battle, which forms such an important feature in North Devon history, I would quote, in conclusion, from an old but little known poem which originally appeared in the *Lundy Review*.

"Appledore's dark point.
So proud of old record;
For there was drawn the sword of right,
And there re-won the sceptre bright,
For England's patriot lord.

There laid the Invader's plundering fleet,
For once his vainly won retreat
The raven's wing began to cower,
And rued the Dane that glorious hour
Of triumph to the righteous power.
When Oddune burst from Kenwith Tower,
  And chased him to the beach,
While vengeance rode the battle storm,
There was that day no Danish form
  But Saxon spear might reach.
The Saxon widow smiled to see
Her foes from her avengers flee;
And stern her spirit rapture's tone,
Caught from expiring Hubba's groan,
  As on the beach, at close of day,
  Low fallen, tho' leader of the fray,
  He drew his dying breath;
Died as he lived, without remorse,
With shore and wave to share his corse,
  A very Dane in death."

CHAPTER V.

EARLY HISTORY.

Supposed early Name, Herculea—Variations in Name—Early British Period—Scandinavian Period—First Recorded Possessors—Sir Jordan de Marisco—Knights Templars—Copy of Grant to ditto by King John—Keepers appointed by the Crown—The Mariscoes Reinstated—Grant to Baldwin Gifford—Piracies of the Mariscoes—Attempted Murder of Henry III.—Retreat to Lundy of the Conspirators—Account of by Matthew Paris—Execution of William de Marisco—Seizure of Island by the King—Government confided to Henry de Tracey and Sir Geoffrey Dinant—Attached to Hartland Abbey—Extent by order of the King—Finding of the Jurors as to the burdens incumbent on the Lord—The Mariscoes again in favour—Lawsuit—Assize of novel Disseisin—Inquisition on the Attainder of Sir John de Wyllyngton—Jurors' Report as to the products, value, and tenures of the Island—Attempted Flight of Edward II. to Lundy—Westcote's Account, and curious verses quoted thereon—Series of subsequent Owners down to the period of the Civil War—Successive Tenures—Importance of Lundy at those periods.

AS regards the actual history of Lundy, its ancient name is said to have been Herculea. It is so called by Dr. Stukely in his *Itinerarium Curiosum*, and delineated as such in the map compiled by him from ancient geographers. In the *Itinerary and Commentary de Situ Britanniæ* attributed to Richard

of Cirencester, it is referred to as being visible from the British town Artavia. "Visuntur hic Antiquis sic dictæ Herculis Columnæ et non procul hinc Insula Herculea." It is, however, not noticed in the Itinerary of Antonine. Ptolemy describes the point of land nearest to it as the promontory of Hercules, "Herakleiâ Acté." Whence or how the present name is derived, whether from the Norsemen or at a much earlier period, is not clear; but "Lundy" has a Danish "ring" about it. The late Canon Kingsley suggested the probability of the name taking its origin from some early Scandinavian. The prefix being a common type of Norse name, and the termination of *i* (an ordinary terminal of island), leading him to suspect the name to mean the Island of Lund, or some such Scandinavian hero, of which he quoted Caldy and other Islands with a similar termination as further examples. He also recommended the subject of early Scandinavian incursions and settlement in North Devon to the research of local archæologists, as the course of his reading had led him more and more to believe that such colonization was on a much larger scale than had hitherto been suspected. In the historical notice by the Canon of Oseney it is called Londey; in the Hundred Rolls, and in Stow, Londay, and Londi; in the Grant to the Templars, Lundeia; in the Ecclesiastical Registers, Londia; by Thomas de la Moor, Lunday; but Westcote calls it Landy. For the last two centuries there

has been no variation from the present name Lundy. Westcote gives a curious derivation, certainly far-fetched if not intended as a pun: "Lundy, or Landy, formed by the transposition of the I, setting it in front I-land in Latin Insula quæ in salo posita."

There is no record whether or not the Island was inhabited in pre-historic times; but judging from the peculiar features and antiquities before described, and the manifest marks of very ancient cultivation, it is not improbable that it was known to and occupied by the aboriginal Britons, neither have I been able to find any actual records of the occupation of the Island in what may be termed the Scandinavian period, although doubtlessly the Danish invaders, who so frequently are found occupying the estuary of the Taw and Torridge, and forming strongholds and settlements in the vicinity, would not have failed to have taken advantage of the facilities offered them by the possession of Lundy, which they may reasonably be presumed to have secured as a shelter or rendezvous for their vessels, for which, both by its situation and natural strength it was so well adapted; but the early Saxon Chronicles are silent on the point, and the Norse character of its name—the suggestion as to the sepulchral remains and skeletons being Danish, and their undoubted presence in great force and for long periods on the adjoining coasts, are the only grounds for supposing a settlement of Norsemen on the Island itself.

In the earliest recorded period of its history the Island is found in the possession of the noble family of Montmorencey, or Monte-Morence, the English and Irish branches of which were designated as de Monte Marisco,* and generally called de Marisco, a name frequently occurring in the annals of England as filling important offices under the Crown. In 1231 Sir Geoffrey de Marisco, as Lord Justiciary of Ireland, did good service against the native princes, having in the great battle fought in that year against the King of Connaught taken him prisoner, and routed his army with great slaughter. Another of the family, Richard de Marisco, was a noted and turbulent Bishop of Durham.

At the commencement of the reign of Henry II., the then Lord of Lundy, Sir Jordan de Marisco, who had married Agnes, daughter of Hamelin Plantagenet, natural son of Geoffry of Anjou, the father of Henry II., having by his turbulent conduct rendered himself obnoxious, his stronghold, the Island of Lundy, was declared forfeited, and granted by Henry to the Knights Templars. This grant, however, appears not to have taken effect, and the Marisco family to have remained in possession, as in the first year of the reign of King John, 1199, Sir William de Marisco,

* For an account of the great family of Marisco, Monte Marisco, Monte Morenci, De Mareish, and Mareis, see *Les Monte Morenci de France et les Monte Morenci d'Ireland.* By Colonel Hervé de Montmorenci Morrés. 4to. Paris, 1828.

son and heir of Sir Jordan, having risen again in rebellion, another attempt was made to dispossess him—the king confirmed the grant to the Templars, and also until such time as they could possess it granted them the revenues of certain lands in Somerset, lately enjoyed by Nicholas de Knoville.

I transcribe the deed of confirmation in its original Latin, as a type of the long series of subsequent grants:

"Carta Regis Johannis de Insula Londeiæ.

"Johannis Dei gratia, &c. Sciatis nos Concessise et presenti Cartâ nostrâ confirmasse in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam pro salute nostrâ et antecessorum et successorum nostrorum. Deo et fratribus militiæ templi Jerusalem Insulam de Lundeia quæ sita est in mari in ore Sabrini fluminis inter Tinbeth et Bardestapulam, quare volumus et firmiter præcipimus quod præfati fratres Templi eandem Insulam habeant et teneant totam in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam bene et in pace libere et quiete integre et plenarie et honorifice cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus sicut Carta Henrici Regis patris nostri quam inde habent testatum Testi Waltero Rothomagensi.

Dat per manum H. Cant Archiepiscopi Cancellarii nostri apud Saqium Anno Regni nostri primo."

This confirmatory grant was equally nugatory as the former one by Henry II., Sir William de Marisco braving the royal authority and retaining possession

of his stronghold, and apparently attacking the adjoining coasts, as in the fourth year of the same reign an aid by way of Hidage was levied upon the counties of Devon and Cornwall for the siege of Lundy Island, and there is in the Record Office a return from the sheriff accounting for forty marks which he had received of the county by way of aid for the defence of the maritime ports against William de Marisco, &c., and for £47 16s. he had received of Richard, the clerk of William de Brinvere, "et quondam hidagio posito in comitatibus Devoniæ et Cornubiæ ad obsidendum Insulam Gulielmi de Marisco."

The Templars could never have actually taken possession of or held the Island, as in the fifteenth year of the same reign, 1213, they received out of the treasury the sum of £10 awarded them for the Island, and in the fifth year of Henry III., 1220, the further sum of 100 shillings in lieu and full recompense for it.

Whether William de Marisco was actually dispossessed of Lundy at this period or not, does not appear, though that many attempts were made is shown by several commissions for its keeping having been granted by Letters Patent, two of which are quoted from the Tower Records by Grose:—"Pat. 29, Henry III., m. 3. The king to all Greeting, &c.—Know ye that we have committed our Island of Lundy to the keeping of Henry de Tracy during pleasure, together

with the Stock and Profits of the said Island. Pat. 34, Henry III. The King to Henry de Tracy, keeper of the Island of Lundy, Greeting.—Know ye that we have committed to our beloved and faithful Robert Walerand, the keeping of our said Island during our pleasure," &c. This William de Marisco appears to have gone over to his French kindred, as he is mentioned in the *Chronicle de Mailross* as one of the prisoners taken by the English in the sea-fight with the French, Aug. 24th, 1217, when the celebrated arch-pilot, Eustace the Monk, was slain; and only three months later, by a change in the wheel of fortune so common in those troublous times, Marisco again came into favour, and it was restored to him, as shown by Letters Patent, dated 17th November, 1217, reciting that he had given the king surety of his faithful services, he was reinstated into possession of Lundy, and his wife, four sons, and two daughters, who had been captured, were restored to him. A few years subsequently, 1222, he obtained permission of the sheriff of Somerset to remove to Lundy the Mangonells which he had erected on his lordship of Camley, county of Somerset, and he would appear to have remained in possession of the Island until his death, but turbulent to the last, as in 1233, he was amerced in a fine of 300 marks to the king for his ransom; and in the same year obtained a further grant of the Island from Henry, who had probably seized it for the ransom.

A deed made about this period, the original of which is preserved among the muniments of the city of Exeter, but without date, is interesting, as showing the importance and extent of the place.

"William de Mariscis, by assent of Lucy, his wife,

and

"Jordan de Mariscis, his son and heir,

to

"Baldewin Giffard, and his heirs.—

"Grant of 'Hunwedreswalles,' with its appurtenances, with the vivary, and as the bounds towards the south are perambulated by view of my men, and 'Sageswalles,' with its appurtenances, To hold of him and his heirs by the service of finding three men to be in my Isle of Lundi, one to wit *ad ferrum*, and two *ad purpunctos et ad capellos ferreos;* and when I put my men in the said Island, he is to put his also; when I remove mine, he shall remove one part of his. The said Baldewin and his heirs are to be in that land at my summons when it shall be needful, unless they be hindered by royal service. They shall have in the common pasture, two mares, thirty beasts, and one hundred sheep, and all their issue under one year old. He also grants the said Baldewin one hundred rabbits, to be taken 'de Swerthechove,' and if Swerthechove will not suffice to produce one hundred, he is to take them *in duabus proximis chovis*, and to take them by view of the said William's bailiff; and if any year he be not fully

paid, it is to be made up to him the next year. And if any of the said Baldewin's men leave the Island by licence of my bailiff, so that no crime be charged to them, the said Baldewin shall not be answerable for them; and if any of his men be charged, or taken in robbery, the said Baldewin may keep them in guard, or deliver them to his bailiff of Lundi, until they be judged according to law, in the Court of the Island." He also grants to the said Baldewin and his heirs, easements of the land *in fortelleses* in ways, paths, ponds, mills, fuel, and all necessaries, by view of his bailiff.

At this period the coast of Devon appears to have been in a condition much the same as that of the Rhine with its robber lords, Lundy Island being one of the chief strongholds from which piratical attacks were made not only on the high seas, but on the adjoining coasts, the noble family of Marisco having degenerated into pirates, in a chronic state of rebellion against the crown, and taking the lead in all deeds of violence, but with varying success.

In the annals of Thomas Wyke, Canon of Oseney, date 1238, quoted in Leland's *Collectanea*, is a notice "Gul de Mareies pyraticam exercens occupavit Lundey. Insula Sabrini fluv. Baldwine Comes Insuloe, profectus est, cum Richar Comite Cornub. fug. in terram sanctam."

Sir William was succeeded by his son Jordan or Geoffrey de Marisco, who is noted in history as

attempting a descent on Ireland, and being slain at Kilkenny, in 1234; and soon after occurred the event which led to the breaking up of the robbers' nest, and its being wrested from the Marisco family for many years. This event was the attempted murder of Henry III., at Woodstock, by a clerk, supposed to have been tutored to the act by Sir William de Marisco, a younger son of Geoffrey, for which he was condemned and executed, of which occurrence there is an account in Holingshed. "At the traitor's death he confessed that he was sent from Sir William de Marisco, the sonne of Jeffrie de Marisch, to murder the king by such manner of means, and not careing what had become of himself, so he might have dispatched his purpose." This crime, and the events which followed it, as related by several cotemporary historians, has formed the staple of most of the accounts of Lundy which have appeared in various Devonshire histories and articles on Lundy, being highly sensational, although really unconnected with the Island itself; but divested of all extrinsic details, the account by Matthew Paris of what occurred subsequent to the attempted murder gives some interesting particulars about it. "William de Marisco, son of Geoffrey de Marisco, taking refuge in an island in the Bristol Channel, called Londy, impregnable from the nature of the place, and having attached to himself many outlaws and malefactors, subsisted by a piracy of goods, more especially of

wine and provisions, making frequent sudden eruptions on the adjacent lands, spoiling and injuring the realm by land and by sea, and native as well as foreign merchants in various ways; but when many nobles of England and Ireland, unable to remain at home with honour (the king being adverse to the risk of war beyond sea), passing over into parts not far distant from the above-mentioned Island, had learnt more fully how the said William and his followers could not be surprised except by stratagem, they apprised the king that the securing of this malefactor must be effected not by violence, but by policy. The king therefore ordered his faithful subjects, under the hope of full retribution, to exert themselves strenuously in order to capture him and liberate their country. This same William was very odious to the king, inasmuch as at the instigation of his father he had conspired against the king's life, and had basely incited to the crime of high treason that miscreant who came by night to murder the king at Woodstock, and after that had killed a certain priest in the king's presence."

And in subsequent passages the same historian describes how "about the time the king was in Gascony (1242), William de Marisco, knight, while he abode in the Island pursuing a course of rapine and treachery, having been surprised by the king's lieges, taken, thrown in chains, and having been with sixteen accomplices legally condemned and sentenced

to death by the king's command, being first dragged from Westminster to the Tower, and thence to that engine of punishment vulgarly called the gibbet. When he had there breathed out his wretched soul, he was suspended on a hook, and when stiff in death was lowered, disembowelled, his bowels burnt on the spot, and his wretched body divided into quarters, which were sent to the four principal cities in the kingdom, by that pitiable spectacle to strike terror into all beholders; and all his sixteen associates, after being dragged at the horse-tail throughout the city of London, were hanged at the gallows." After the execution of Sir William, his father Geoffrey fled to France, where he died anno 1245, and the Island was then declared forfeited to the king, who appointed Henry de Traci keeper.

Thus for a time ceased the lordship of the Mariscoes, who had been identified with Lundy for ages. The evidences of their importance may be seen in the remains of the castle called by their name, and which from its massive and extensive ruins show that it must have once been an important, if not an imposing fortress. The caves and subterranean passages in its neighbourhood, and likewise the mounds, the round towers, and some of the remains of fortifications along the coast, are probably relics of the sway of these pirate nobles, and are illustrative of the bold lawlessness of the time, as well as of the natural strength and importance of the Island.

After these events, Lundy was for a time held in Demesne by the Crown, and it appears by the Patent Rolls that its custody was confided to several governors of whom there is no very clear successive account, the dates being very much confused. Orders were at the same time issued by the king "to Earls, Barons, and Knights of Devon, to keep or take care of the coast towards Lundy, where the king's enemies keep," adding that unless they attended to it "the king had ordered Henri de Traci, Richard Valletort, Philip de Bellamont, and Galfrid Dinant, at the expense and with the advice of the sheriff of Devon, to keep the peace in those parts." An order is also extant directed to Walter de Bathon, sheriff of Devon, "to keep the sea coasts from the king's enemies who stay at Lundy."

In 1245 Henry de Tracy, Baron of Barnstaple, who had before been appointed keeper, was confirmed as Governor of Lundy by Henry, and in his thirty-fourth year (1250) Robert de Walerond, also a Baron of Parliament, was appointed as successor to Traci, and five years later Sir Ralph de Wyllyngton was appointed, and after he was discharged thereof, according to Risdon, it was committed to the keeping of Humphry de Bohun, who was succeeded just previous to the death of King Henry in 1272 by Sir Geoffery Dinan, or Dynant, Lord of Hartland (subsequently summoned to Parliament as Baron Dynham), who held it up to the fourth year of the

reign of Edward I. The Island was at that time, according to Bishop Stapledon's Register, attached to the Lordship of Hartland, as appears by an Inquisition of the liberties of the Manor and Abbey of Hartland extracted from the Hundred Rolls. "3rd Edward I. Hertiland.—Veredictum Duodicum Juratorum, &c. Dicunt quod Dominus Oliverus de Dineham tenet Maner de Hertiland in Capiti, &c.

"Dicunt quod Insula de Londay est Escæta Domini Regis per Mortem Wilhelmi de Maresco felonis et Dominus Holovrinus tenet dictam Insulam per Bayiam regis Henrici patris Edwardi Regis qui nunc est, nesciunt quo warranto."

At about the same time, 3rd Edward I., 1274, an extent was made of the Island by order of the king, when the jurors made a very full report as to its natural productions and the land in tillage, with the value of its produce at that time, which will be noticed hereafter. The burdens incumbent on the Island were set out as follows:—

"In summer, even in time of peace, it is necessary to have fourteen servants and a constable to watch the defences of the Island, and in winter ten servants." On the back of the Inquisition it is recorded that "the jurors being asked by him who made the extent, what the turf, gorse, brushwood, and the fresh water were worth to the king's benefit, answered that none of them could take value, as no man

would buy them; but the auditing clerk perceives that all these things may be considered of such value to the keepers of the Island as to lessen their wages to the extent of five shillings, and the fowls besides; although they cannot be sold, nor are the keepers willing to eat them, yet he estimated them at forty pence. Of quarries, minerals, or timber, none was found there. As for the flesh of the rabbits, what it is worth to the keepers of the Island he leaves to the discretion of the King's Counsel to estimate. Be it mentioned however that for all these matters the keepers of the Island have been wont to take nothing less in wages."

We see from this that the petty economies so dear to the official mind now, were equally rife in these early days.

Seven years after this we find the Mariscoes again received into favour. A conditional grant for the service of one-tenth part of a knight's fee having been made by the king in 1281 to another Sir William de Marisco, described as the son of Jordan, the son of Jeffrey, sometime viceroy of Ireland. This Sir William died in 1284, seized of the Island, leaving John his son, who died five years after, leaving Herbert his son and heir; but upon the death of John, Olivia, his second wife and widow, claimed the entire possession of the Island as her dower, which led to a curious lawsuit.

In the 15th Edward II., 1321, Herbert de Marisco,

at an assize of novel disseizin held before John de Foxleigh and John de Stonehare Justices Itinerant in Devonshire, recovered the Island of Sir John de Wyllyngton, of the same family as the former Governor of the name; and the Justices issued their precept to put Herbert in re-seizin, which precept was resisted, and Sir John by force and arms defended the Island, whereby Herbert could not have his seizin, nor obtain his damages. At the same time Sir John de Wyllyngton being implicated in the Earl of Lancaster's rebellion, his lands were seized by the king, whereupon Herbert de Marisco came into court and prayed that the Island should be restored to him. In this suit he appears to have been not successful, as the Island was given by the king the same year to his favourite, Hugh Lord le Despenser, with all the other lands of De Wyllyngton, forfeited by his being implicated in the rebellion, and the inquisition of his property taken consequently thereon sets out, as in the previously quoted Inquisition, the quantity and value of the land in tillage and of the other produce, and also adds several curious items elucidating its then condition. "That he held the Island with all its appurtenances, in which is a certain castle with a barton for which they made no valuation, as the same was destroyed and burnt by the Scots. There is a rabbit warren worth in ordinary years one hundred shillings, but this year destroyed in great part. Also a certain

rock called the Gannett Stone, with two places near it where gannetts settle and breed, worth in ordinary years sixty-six shillings and eightpence, but this year destroyed in part by the Scots. Also eight tenants, who hold their land and tenements by a certain charter of Herbert de Mareis granted them for the term of their lives, who pay fifteen shillings yearly. Also one tenant, who should keep the said gannetts during the whole of the season of their breeding, and for which services he will be quit of his rent of two shillings. Also pleas and perquisites of courts worth yearly four shillings."

Five years later, 1326, occurred the next historical event connected with Lundy.

The king, Edward II., flying from his queen and rebellious barons, had his attention called to the Island as a place of refuge (probably by his favourite Hugh Lord le Despenser, who then held it, and whose son accompanied him in his flight), deeming it, from its inaccessible nature, easy to be defended against his rebellious subjects. The circumstances are narrated by a cotemporary historian, Sir Thomas de la Moor, and are also to be found in Stow's *Annals*, which I quote:—

"The King, Hugh Spencer the younger, and Robert Baldocke, determined to flee into the Isle of Londay, which is in the mouth of the river Severne, two miles in length everie waie, abounding with pasture grounds and oates, very pleasant; it bringeth

forth Conies verie plentifull; it hath pigeons and other fowles, which Alexander Necham calleth Ganimedes Birdes, having great nestes. Also it ministreth to the inhabitantes fresh springing waters flowing out of fountaines, although it be on everie side environed with the salt sea; it hath onlie one entrance into it, in the which two men together can scarce goe in a front. On all the other partes there is an high hanging over of a great rocke, which letteth the passage to this Iland as we have saide. It aboundeth altogether with victualles, and is verie full of wines, oile, hony, corne, bragget, salt fish, flesh, and sea or earth coales."

Having come as far as Chepstow, the king took sea in a small vessel for Lundy, but a contrary wind prevented him proceeding down Channel; therefore, with difficulty escaping the severity of the weather, he landed in Wales, and took up his residence at Neath Abbey.

The event is quaintly noticed in Westcote's *History of Devonshire*, and he quotes some verses "writ by a modern poet," in which the king's purpose is thus expressed:—

"To Londi, which in Sabrin's mouth doth stand,
Carried with hope (still hoping to find ease)
Imagining it were his native land,
England itself; Severn, the narrow seas,
With this conceit (poor soul!) himself doth please.
And sith his rule is over-ruled by men,
On birds and beasts, he'll king it o'er again.

"'Tis treble death a freezing death to feel,
For him on whom the sun hath ever shone;
Who hath been kneeled unto, can hardly kneel,
Nor hardly beg what once hath been his own.
A fearful thing to tumble from a throne!
Fain would he be king of a little isle;
All were his empire bounded in a mile."

Upon the execution of the favourite (30th November, 1326) and the abdication of Edward, the Island again returned to the Crown, when Edward III., in the first year of his reign (1327), gave the keeping of it to Otho de Bodrigan, Herbert de Marisco being just dead. In the same year the seizin was granted to Philip Lord de Columbers, and William de Botereux, from whom it seems to have been reclaimed, as the same king in his sixth year granted it to Lord de Wyllyngton, who in the same year passed it in fee to Ralph his son, who sold it to William de Montacute, Earl of Salisbury. This nobleman upon purchase, obtained the king's confirmation.

In the 11th Edward III. (1337), John Lord Wyllyngton died, when Lundy, valued at £10 per annum, was found by inquisition to be held of him by Sir John de Luttrell by the tenure of military services.

On the 23rd May, 1349, Sir Henry de Wyllyngton, son and heir of Sir Henry, brother to Lord John, died, when the Island was by another inquisition found

to be held of him by William, Earl of Salisbury, by the same tenure as one knight's fee.*

In 1390, 14th Richard III., Guy Lord Bryan died, seized of the Island of Lundy, which he held of the king in capite; and on the 3rd June, 35th Henry VI., 1456, Avice, wife of James Butler, Earl of Wiltshire and Ormonde, died in possession of the Island, which had descended to her through her mother, Maude, daughter and heiress of Sir Robert Lovell, by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Guy de Bryan, the eldest son of Lord Bryan. James Earl of Wiltshire fell by the axe May 1st, 1461, from which time until the 16th Henry VII., 1488, it remained unappropriated, when it became the property of his brother and heir, Thomas Earl of Ormonde, by virtue of the deed of partition of the estates of Guy Lord Bryan. Thomas Earl of Ormonde died 8th August, 1515, leaving issue Ann and Margaret, his co-heiresses. Lundy appears to have been then apportioned to Ann, the eldest co-heiress, who married Sir James St.

* For the account of most of these descents and transmissions I am indebted to the genealogical paper of Mr. Steinmetz before referred to, the result of the joint researches of Mr. Hardy and himself in the Record Office, principally the Close Rolls, Hundred and Patent Rolls, and the Inquisitions of Post Mortems and Escheat. As the references to these are very numerous, and may also be easily found in the Indexes and Calendars published by the Record Office, it is unnecessary to repeat them here. The same may be said of the numerous extracts given from the Calendars of State Papers (Domestic Transactions) given in a later part of this volume as to the piracies.

Ledger of Annery, whose only son, the issue of this marriage, Sir George St. Ledger, possessed the Island, which after three descents in the direct line of the St. Ledgers became vested in Mary St. Ledger, who had to her husband the gallant Sir Richard Grenville of Bideford, Devon, Admiral of England, and by him was mother of the equally gallant Sir Bevil Grenville, who lost his life at the battle of Lansdown. And we find, from Westcote, that Lundy was the property of the Grenville family when he wrote, in 1630; but the succession from this period until it devolved on Lord Gower, who held it in fee previous to 1746, when he granted a lease of it to the notorious Benson, is anything but clear. We find Lord Say and Sele laying claim to the Island in 1646; but though he called it his "inheritance," and subsequently took possession of it, yet as he reported the capture to Sir Thomas Fairfax, it is probable that his claim was a mere political one, and not a claim by inheritance. Nor is the nature of the tenure by which Lundy was held in successive ages clear in every case. In most instances it was held almost as a sovereignty under absolute grant from the Crown, or by military tenure, it being rated as the tenth of a knight's fee. In other cases the ownership remained in demesne and the custody only was granted, but there is no distinct evidence when it became a fee simple Fief, transmissible by descent or mere deed of transfer.

In feudal times the separation between the political or military tenure, the manorial tenure, and the occupation, or usufruct, was not so clearly defined as at present; but in reviewing the long list of noble owners or governors, and the grasping ambition of the Crown to seize it whenever opportunity offered, we are forcibly impressed with the importance that Lundy either possessed, or was deemed to possess, in those early days.

CHAPTER VI.

HISTORY FROM CIVIL WAR.

The Great Rebellion—Lundy a Resort for Outlaws and Pirates—A Commission issued for their Suppression—Captain Salkeld calls himself King of Lundy—Death of Sir L. Stukely there—Turkish Pirates surprise and take it—Captured by the Spaniards—Sir John Pennington proclaims Martial Law—Governor Bushel appointed by Charles I.—He fortifies it—Summoned by Lord Say and Sele and the Parliament to Surrender—Forwards the summons personally to the King—Letter from Charles I.—Account of the Surrender—The Parliament grants a pardon to the defenders—Lord Say and Sele Retreats to Lundy—Tradition of his Death and Burial there—Discovery of his Remains—Fresh Piracies—Grose's Story of its Capture by Stratagem—Lundy a French Privateering Station—Descent of Island from Civil War to the present time—Life and Career of Benson—Deportation of Convicts—Smuggling and Concealment at Lundy—Scuttling Vessel—His Flight to Portugal, and Seizure of his Lands by Government—Account of a Visit to the Island in 1752—Ecclesiastical History—Church of St. Helena—Inductions to the Living—Present Ecclesiastical Position—Description of the Ruins of Church and the Oratory of St. Ann.

WE now come to the period of the great Rebellion, when Lundy became very prominent in the West Country. In the troubled times which preceded that event, Lundy had regained its old bad prominence as a pirates' nest. With the cessation of

its political importance, it had probably ceased to be cared for, and had been deserted by its noble owners, as it became not only a place of refuge for the disaffected, but a safe resort and retreat for pirates and adventurers of all nations. The calendars of State papers give us numerous curious revelations of this period.

On the 18th January, 1600, we find a W. Pole, who appears to have been employed in some espionage of the popish recusants in the latter days of Elizabeth, reporting to Lord Chief Justice Popham on the doings of Sir Robert Bassett. "Although he stands not curious in any religion, yet lately he has practised popery, as he has confessed that Sir William Courtenay and himself have combined. He confesses he has a matter of some moment to pursue, and has resolved to have the Isle of Lundy, and to place there one Annesley, a malcontent. I am bound, both in regard to my country and my love of Sir R. Bassett, to acquaint you with this, that the beginning may be prevented."

In the early part of the reign of James I. continued complaints were made by shipowners and local authorities to Government of the piracies in the Bristol Channel, and in 1608 a commission was issued to the Earl of Bath, who sat at Barnstaple, and took the depositions of three persons there to the effect that the merchants were daily robbed at sea by pirates who took refuge at Lundy.

On the 20th March, 1610, a commission was issued to the Earl of Nottingham to give authority to the Mayor and Aldermen of Barnstaple to send out ships for taking pirates, and on the 17th April the deposition of William Young, who had been taken prisoner by Captain Salkeld, a pirate, and escaped, was taken, which set out the details of vessels captured by him, and that he had taken possession of the Island of Lundy, and called himself the king of it. About the same time we find a reference to Lundy quoted in a life of Sir Walter Raleigh, as being the place of the retreat and death of Sir Lewis Stukely.

"In the year 1618, Sir Walter Raleigh, seeing the influence of his enemies at Court, had contrived to escape into France, but was betrayed by Sir Lewis Stukely, Vice-Admiral of the Coasts of Devon. The fate of traitors however finally awaited Sir Lewis. Well did this faithless, cunning knight, who betrayed Sir W. Raleigh in his intended escape, being come ashore, fall to that contemptible end, as to die a poor destracted beggar in the Isle of Lundy, having for a bag of money falsified his faith."*

Seven years later, August 18th, 1625, the Mayor of Bristol reports to the Council that three Turkish pirates had surprised and taken the Island of Lundy with the inhabitants, and had threatened to burn Ilfracombe. This appears to have been denied by Captain Harris, Commander of H.M.S. *Phœnix*,

* Howel's *Familiar Letters*, p 387.

stationed in King's Road, and in consequence the Government ordered an enquiry by the Vice-Admiral, James Perrott, who took the depositions of divers merchant captains, and sent them to the Earl of Pembroke. Among them is a curious one from Nicholas Cullen, "That the Turks had taken out of a church in Cornwall about sixty men, and carried them away prisoners. They continued in Lundy a fortnight. He saw the Turkish ship lying at Lundy."

On the 25th April, 1628, Captain Fogg, of H.M.S. *St. James*, writes to the Admiralty that a French man-of-war had taken some barks off Lundy. "Hope we shall meet with them."

On the 30th June, 1630, Captain Plumleigh, who was in command of a ship-of-war, wrote to the Lord Treasurer—"Egypt was never more infested with caterpillars than the Channel with Biscayers. On the 23rd inst. there came out of St. Sebastian twenty sail of sloops; some attempted to land on Lundy, but were repulsed by the inhabitants." From this time to 1634 the Island was a perpetual source of trouble to the Government. The reports and communications with the various authorities, civil and naval, as also with the Lord Deputy of Ireland, being frequent, all much to the same effect—the Lundy pirates and the means of suppressing them.

In 1632 a notorious bucaneer called Captain Robert Nutt, who assumed the title of Admiral Nutt, having two if not more ships under his com-

mand, infested the Narrow Seas, making Lundy one of his head-quarters. He principally occupied himself in pilfering the small traders; and several ships-of-war were detailed specially to capture him, some smaller vessels accompanying the expedition, which were called "whelps." On the 29th July, 1632, Captain Plumleigh reports that he was just sailing for Lundy, where he heard that Nutt's Vice-Admiral, was; and on the 5th August following he sends a despatch to the Admiralty, dated from Lundy, stating his arrival, but that Nutt's Vice-Admiral, had escaped; and a month later, 4th September, he reports having encountered the pirate fleet, and "bestowing upon them thirty great shot, of which Nutt received ten through his own ship; but they succeeded in escaping." "He is then shaping his course to Long Island, and thence to Lundy and Caldy, which are the pirates' dens."

This energetic pursuit got rid of them for the time; but on the 15th June, 1633, Captain Plumleigh writes that he had sent the ninth "whelp" into the Severn to clear the coast of pirates, who had again betaken themselves to Lundy and the Welsh Islands.

On the 30th July, 1633, Sir Barnard Grenville reported to the Secretary of State that a great outrage had been committed by a Spanish man-of-war, who on the 16th instant landed eighty men at the Island of Lundy, when after some small resistance

they killed one man called Mark Pollard, and bound the rest, and surprised and took the Island, which they rifled, and took thence all the best provisions they found worth carrying away, and so departed to sea again.

This was verified by depositions from a number of sailors and fishermen of Clovelly, one of whom (George Rendle), who happened to be at Lundy with his pinnace, had all his money and provisions taken.

On the 16th August the Government took more decisive and energetic measures, and they ultimately commissioned Sir John Pennington to put down the piracies, and he appears to have proclaimed martial law there; as on the 9th September, 1633, he is found applying to the Secretary of State, requesting that Lundy should be placed entirely in his charge, as there was a conflict of jurisdiction. And on the 24th September a special meeting of the Lords of the Admiralty is recorded, "to consider (*inter alia*) the complaints from the west country of the outrages committed at Lundy."

After, or probably in consequence of these events, a governor was appointed by Charles I., one Thomas Bushel, Esq., who was also engaged in working the silver mines at Combmartin, and who, at the commencement of the civil war, refortified Lundy, and held it for the king, at his own cost, as appears by his petition for compensation presented after the restoration, November, 1661, setting out that he was

at great expense in maintaining a garrison on the Isle of Lundy, in the king's cause. In February, 1645, a claim was set up to the Island by Lord Say and Seal. It was probably based on some grant to him by the Parliament after the death of Sir Bevil Grenville, in whose family it had been vested.

On the 16th February, 1646, we find a letter from Lord Say and Seal to Governor Bushel praying him to deliver into his possession "his inheritance," and at the same time informing him that if he was desirous of purchasing it he should have it for £3,000. Bushel had on the 19th February of the preceding year expressed his wish to retain it, on account of its vicinity to some silver mines in which he was engaged at Combmartin, offering his lordship in lieu any part of the lands he had in Oxfordshire.

The Governor still holding out, a summons to surrender was sent him by the Parliament, dated 10th April following, when (no doubt finding the impossibility of retaining it in the then failing power and fortunes of the King) he sent the summons with the following letter to Charles, which with the King's reply are interesting.

"May it please your Majesty,—

"The enclosed I received from my Lord Say's servant, who is Governor of Swanzey, which I conceive was sent by his Lordship's direction, wherein he invites me to the surrender of this Isle, being his Lordship's known purchase; in the perusal of which

I was not at all startled at the threats therein, but must confess myself moved at the obligation it minds me of, with which I formerly acquainted your Majesty in the presence of my Lord of Dorset, since which Captain Crowther, Vice-Admiral of these seas, summoned me to surrender this place. And not long after Sir Thomas Fairfax sent a drummer with his letter and an order from the Committee of both Kingdoms, wherein they proposed their assistance in restoring me to my interest in the silver mines if that I would deliver up this Island to my Lord Say. Your Majesty well knoweth how I have maintained Lundy at no other contribution but my own, and how cheerfully I have exposed my friends and my own credit for your service, as well as exhausted them in the discovery of the mines royall; besides the place in itself is useless except in some advantages it may yield to me. If your sacred Majesty would be pleased to vouchsafe me leave to express my gratitude to my Lord Say by my quiet and free surrendering it, which I hope your goodness will not deny me, but if otherwise your Majesty shall require my longer stay here, be confident, sir, I shall sacrifice both life and fortune before the loyalty of

"Your obedient, humble servant,

"THOMAS BUSHELL.

"Lundy, 14th May, 1646."

The King's reply is very remarkable.

"Bushell,—We have perused your letter, in which we finde thy care to answer thy trust we at first reposed in thee. Now, since the place is unconsiderable in itself, and yet may be of great advantages unto you in respect of your mines, we do hereby give you leave to use your discretion in it, with this caution, that you do take example from ourselves, and be not over credulous of vain promises, which hath made us great only in our sufferings, and will not discharge our debts.

"From Newcastle, 14th July, 1646."

On the 24th February, 1647, the Island was delivered up to the Honourable Richard Fiennes. The following letter, addressed to Sir Thomas Fairfax, conveys an interesting account of this proceeding.

"May it please your Excellency,—

"To be informed that according to your commands and Mr. Bushell's promise, both me and my soldiers met him at the Kay of Clovelly, being the place appointed and the nearest harbour to take shipping for Lundy, where we were forced to stay fifteen days for a winde before we could arrive into the road of Lundy; and his Lieutenant having noticed that it was us, by their Governor, Mr. Bushell, shooting off a pistol, gave us at our landing a salutation with all his guns, and a volle of shot, as an entertainment of friendship and free welcome, which made me so confident of his former profest fidelity in surrendering

the same, that both myself and my men marcht thro' his guard unto the castle, commanding his own men to remain in another house, lest the ignorance of some men on both sides might beget a difference through exchange of language and misunderstanding of the truth; but so soone as they had understood the King's consent for the surrender to the right owner, and the conditions made on their behalfe by their Governor Mr. Bushell, with your Excellency and my Lord, the morning tide following they took shipping for Ilford Combe, where he purposeth to employ them in his chargeable adventures of recovering the distressed works of Commartyn Myne and his other minerals in Wales. The garrison being thus freely surrendered, with all things thereunto belonging, for ammunition of guns and household stuffe, according to his engagement upon the word of a gentleman; but being demanded of his Lieutenant, Mr. Richard Cock, what store of provision was left in the Island, he replyed, with a deep protestation, that for six monthes before Mr. Bushell went over to treat with your Excellency, according to your letter sent by your drummer, they nor their Governor had not eaten a bit of bread in six monthes, nor scarce drunk a barrel of bear in two years, alledging the occasion was the Governor's known losses by land and sea, which caused divers of the soldiers to decline the service upon his proposal of eating horse-flesh, and made the hearts of those that staied more

willinger to endure all kindness, to obey his commands without trespassing of any by land or sea, were it to the loss of their lives; this integrity of theirs, and the honesty of their Governor, as also his publique employment in minerals for the common good being confirmed by the country, makes me humbly present their names hereunder written, as officers and soldiers of the last garrison, and men that have done the least of injuries, notwithstanding their sad condition, which I wish for the president of others, they may be looked upon as the best of enemies that have conditions from the honorable parliament and your Excellency.

"I remain, your devoted servant,

"RICHARD FIENNES.

The list of these men's names which I found upon the Island:—

"Thomas Bushel, Esq., *Governor.*	Henry Botten.
Richard Cock, *Lieut.-Governor.*	James Bowden.
Capt. Edward Owen.	Samuel Shortridge.
Major Richard Pomeroy.	Jo. Wheeler.
Lieut. Oliver Buck.	T. Thorn.
Richard Kynsam.	William Skinner.
William Gilbert, } *Gunners.*	Daniel Hange.
John Scott, }	George Gibbes.
Richard Harris.	Francis Hobbes.
Wm. Matheage.	Richard Ching.
Thomas Brailey.	

"*Signed* RICHARD FIENNES.

"*Lundy, the 24th February.* 1647."

On the treaty for surrendering the Island, the following arrangement was made: "Die Sabbathi 10 Julii 1647. Ordered by the lords and commons assembled in parliament. That upon the delivering up of the isle of Lundy to the Lord Viscount Say and Seal or his assignees, by Mr. Thomas Bushell, the delinquencie of the said Thomas Bushell be taken off, and all sequestration in respect thereof be discharged, and he and his assignees restored to all such rights as he or they had or ought to have in the mines of Devonshire, Wales, and Cornewall, and to all other his estates and rights whatsoever; and that the men that were with him in the island, being not soldiers of estate and fortune, be pardoned and freed from delinquencie.

"H. ELSING, Cler. Par. Dom. Com." *

Bushel, like others who have served and put faith in princes, appears to have found little gratitude, or even justice, as in August, 1660, we find him petitioning Government for the restoration of the rectory of Euston, taken from him by G. Clark, who, with others, apprehended him as a traitor, contrary to the articles of war, on surrender of Lundy Island, so that he was forced to live three years in seclusion

* For these several particulars see a pamphlet in the British Museum, entitled, *A Brief Declaration of the Several Passages in the Treaty Concerning the Surrender of the Garrison of Lundy, now under the Command of Thomas Bushel, Esq, Governor thereof for His Majestie.* London, 1647. This tract is also quoted in the *Bibliotheca Devoniensis.*

from all except one person, who gave him food; and on the 18th November, 1661, his petition was backed by Sir William Parkhouse, Warden of the Mint, who then sent a certificate to the Lord Treasurer testifying to Mr. Bushel's services in the time of the war, and "that in 1642 he discovered a rich mine, and brought 1,000 miners at his own expense, and that he was at great charge in maintaining a garrison in the Isle of Lundy, and was amongst the most active and industrious in the late king's cause."

An old English historian (Echard) narrates of Lord Say and Seal, that after he had lived to see his fine projects and ambition defeated by the supremacy of Cromwell, he sought a voluntary retreat, or rather imprisonment, in the Isle of Lundy.*

There is a local tradition that he died there, and was buried under the west window of the chapel of St. Helen. Mr. Hole, the farmer who resided on the Island in 1787, dug up his supposed grave in the ruins, and found bones and other remains showing an interment there, and deposited them in the common burial-place outside the chapel.

Lord Say, however, does not appear to have held the place subsequent to the Restoration, as very soon after that event we find it returned to the possession of the Granvilles.

But a very few years elapsed before Lundy came again on the scene in connection with piracy.

* *History of England*, vol. ii. p. 805.

In 1663 several complaints were sent from Bristol to the Admiralty of pirates being about Lundy, and of some desperadoes having established themselves there; and on the twenty-fourth February Captain James, commanding the guard-vessel in the Channel, certified to the Admiralty that one Captain Pronoville, a Frenchman, having grown desperate, had fixed himself at Lundy, and was doing great damage to merchants.

On the 3rd June, 1667, the collector of Barnstaple wrote to the Board, "that some small Flushing privateers which lie skulking under the Island of Lundy have taken six small Barks coming from Ireland laden with bullocks, sheep, wool, and tallow," and a few days after, a report was made to the Admiralty by one John Man, "French privateers lying at Lundy Island. They took a trow, kept the master, and sent the men ashore at Barnstaple to procure money for the redemption of the vessel and lading, taking out of her a hundred sheep and other provisions for themselves." A subsequent report sets out that "three privateers at Lundy put terror into all vessels, much shooting had been heard for three or four days."

On the 21st June, 1667, the officer in charge of the district wrote to the Admiralty, "Lundy Island is very slenderly guarded, four or five men from a vessel riding on a cross wind, crept over the gates and went to the people's houses before they saw anybody. If the Dutch should take the Island it

would block up the Severn, and a dozen good men could secure it from the world. Every Englishman should be instrumental to the security of his nation."

Grose in his *Antiquities* gives a curious story as having occurred a few years later—in the reign of William and Mary. "A ship of force pretending to be a Dutchman, and driven into the roads by mistaking the channel, sent a boat ashore desiring some milk for their captain who was sick, which the unsuspecting inhabitants granted for several days. At length the crew informed them of their captain's death, and begged leave, if there was any church or consecrated ground on the Island, to deposit his corpse in it, and also requested the favour of all the Islanders to be present, which was accordingly complied with. After the corpse was brought in, the Islanders were required to quit the chapel for a few minutes when they should be readmitted to see the corpse interred. They had not waited long without the walls before the doors were suddenly thrown open, and a body of armed men furnished from the feigned receptacle of the dead marched out and made them prisoners. The poor Islanders then discovered the pretended Dutchmen to be their natural enemies the French. They then seized 50 horses, 300 goats, 500 sheep, and some bullocks, and reserving what they required, hamstringed the rest of the horses and bullocks, threw the goats and sheep into the sea, and stripped the inhabitants of every valuable, even to their clothes,

and spoiled and destroyed everything, and then, satiated with plunder and mischief, they threw the guns over the cliffs, and left the Island in a most destitute and disconsolate condition."

I have here extracted the story as shortly given by Grose, as it has been frequently quoted in other histories, and in modern guide-books, with more or less variation and dressing up in the incidents and details; but there are strong grounds for disbelieving it altogether, as an almost identical story has been told of the capture of the Island of Sark by the English occurring about the same period, which Grose may have mistaken, and the amount of stock averred to be destroyed and carried off is quite disproportionate to anything the Island could have maintained, at least at the period referred to. It is, however, certain that during a considerable portion of the reigns of William and Mary, and Queen Anne, Lundy was a continual resort of the outcasts of the various parties who betook themselves to piracy as a means of subsistence, and that it was for a time in the hands of the French in the reign of Queen Anne, and who used it as a privateering station, and did considerable injury to the early colonial commerce of Bideford and Barnstaple, the coasts being left unguarded and exposed to the depredations of French privateers, who made such a number of prizes that they emphatically termed Barnstaple Bay "The Golden Bay."

I now revert to the descent and ownership of the Island, which, after the rebellion had passed, we find returned to the possession of the son and heir of Sir Bevil Grenville, who was created Earl of Bath in 1661, and died in August, 1701. His son and successor Charles survived him but a few days, he having been accidentally killed by the bursting of a pistol which he was examining while preparing to attend his father's funeral. He was succeeded by his son William Henry, who died (*sine prole*) in 1711, when the Island devolved on John Leveson, Lord Gower, through his grandmother, a daughter of the first Earl of Bath, and grand-daughter of Sir Bevil Grenville. Lord Gower was created Earl Gower in 1746, and in 1748 he granted a lease of the Island to Thomas Benson. After the death of Earl Gower, his executors sold it to Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren, who resided on the Island until the breaking out of the American war. Some difficulty, arising about the completion of the purchase, led to a law-suit, in the course of which a master in chancery, attended by the solicitors of the parties, officially visited the Island in 1776, and took evidence. His report, which included the depositions of the witnesses, gives an interesting account of the value and state of the Island at that time.

In 1781 Sir John Warren sold the Island to Sir Robert Palk; and it subsequently passed to John Cleveland, Esq., of Tapley; who conveyed it by deed,

dated 14th June, 1803, to Sir Vere Hunt; who at his death, in 1818, was succeeded by his son Sir Aubrey de Vere Hunt; who sold it in 1830 to John Maltravers and W. Stiffe, Esq.; from whom it was purchased, in 1834, by William Heaven, Esq., who has since then made it his place of residence.

But little more historically remains to be narrated, except the career of the notorious Benson, whom I have already mentioned as having obtained a lease of the Island in 1748 from Lord Gower. Thomas Benson was of an old Bideford family residing at Napp, and said to have inherited a large fortune, no less than £40,000. His family and predecessors were considerable merchants, carrying on a great trade with France, Portugal, and the Colonies. He was the life and support of Appledore and Bideford, entering largely into all sorts of speculations. In 1749 he aspired to get into Parliament, and was elected for Barnstaple, on the vacancy which occurred by Mr. Rolle being raised to the peerage. In 1747 he had entered into a contract with government for the exportation of convicts, and given the usual bond to the sheriff to transport them to Virginia or Maryland, which was the simple mode of getting rid of convicts in those days; but instead of so doing, he merely took them to Lundy, which he had just obtained possession of, and where he employed them in building walls, and various other ways. He got into difficulties for smuggling, and

what was then termed piracy, and was exchequered and fined in heavy penalties for duties to government amounting to £5,000. A *fieri facias* was directed to the sheriff of Devon to levy the penalties, under which the officers seized a large quantity of tobacco and other goods secreted in a magazine and caves cut out of the rock at Lundy. He excused himself for the convict affair by declaring that sending them to Lundy was the same as sending them to America. "They were transported from England, no matter where it was, so long as they were out of the kingdom."

The *fi fa* not realizing sufficient, an estreat was issued in 1753 for £7,872 duties and penalties, under which the estate of Napp was seized and kept possession of by government during his life.

The most villainous transaction, however, in which he was implicated was the conspiracy to defraud the insurance offices, by lading a vessel with a valuable cargo of pewter, linen, and salt, which he heavily insured. The vessel, called the *Nightingale*, sailed for Maryland, but by a secret arrangement between the master and Benson, put back at night and landed the greater part of the cargo at Lundy, where Benson had repaired, concealing it in the caves there, and then the master, Lancey, put to sea, and burnt and scuttled his vessel some leagues to the westward, the crew being taken off by a homeward-bound ship. The roguery was however soon discovered by the

confession of one of the crew. Lancey was apprehended with some of his shipmates, seized and condemned, hung at execution dock, and afterwards in chains. Benson escaped to Portugal; he is said, however, to have returned to Napp incognito for a time, some years afterwards, when the affair was nearly forgotten, but ultimately returned to Portugal, and died there. I quote from a manuscript journal of a visit to Lundy by a friend of Benson's, some particulars of the Island, and of Benson himself at this time. "In the month of July, 1752, I sailed from Appledore on a Monday morning with Sir Thomas Gunstone, in a little vessel bound to Wales, which dropped us in Lundy road. We came from Mr. Benson's house, of Napp, who rented the Island of the Lords Carteret and Gower for £60. We landed about two o'clock. Mr. Benson did not accompany us, expecting letters from the insurance office for the vessel and cargo which was to have taken us there. The vessel then lay off his quay with convicts, bound to Virginia, but he came to us on Wednesday. The Island was at this time in no state of improvement, the houses miserably bad, one on each side the platform, that on the right inhabited by Mr. Benson and his friends, the other by servants. The old fort was occupied by the convicts whom he had sent there some time before, and occupied in making a wall across the Island. They were locked up every night when they returned from their labour. About a

week before we landed seven or eight of them took the long-boat and made their escape to Hartland, and were never heard of afterwards. Wild fowl were exceeding plentiful, and a vast number of rabbits. The Island was overgrown with ferns and heath, which made it almost impossible to go to the extreme of the Island. Had it not been for the supply of rabbits and young sea-gulls our table would have been but poorly furnished, rats being so plenty that they destroyed every night what was left of our repast by day. Lobsters were tolerably plenty, and some other fish we caught. The deer and goats were very wild, and difficult to get at. The path to the house was so narrow and steep that it was scarcely possible for a horse to ascend it. The inhabitants by the assistance of a rope climbed up a rock, in which were steps cut out to place their feet, up to a cave or magazine where Mr. Benson lodged his goods. There happened to come into the roads one evening near twenty sail of vessels. The colours were hoisted on the fort, and they all as they passed Rat Island returned the compliment except one vessel, which provoked Mr. Benson to fire at her with ball, though we used every argument in our power to prevent him. He replied that the Island was his, and every vessel that passed it and did not pay him the same compliment as was paid to the king's forts he would fire on her. He talked to us about his contract for exportation of convicts to Virginia, and often said

that the sending convicts to Lundy was the same as sending them to America; they were transported from England, it matters not where it was, so long as they were out of the kingdom."

As part of the historical notice of Lundy, some reference should be made to its ecclesiastical position, which is anomalous, it being not only extra-parochial, but extra-diocesan as it seems, having been left pretty much to itself since the suppression of monasteries. In the reigns of Henry IV. and Edward III., when the Island was, as we have seen, attached to the Manor and Abbey of Hartland, the spiritual duties were no doubt attended to by the monks of that Abbey. At a subsequent period it appears to have become a distinct parish, with a church dedicated to St. Helena, and having attached to it an oratory dedicated to St. Ann. We find from the registers of the diocese of Exeter that in June, 1325, one Walter le Bot was presented "Ecclesie Sancti Elene de Londai" by Hugh le Despenser. Shortly after the attainder of Le Despenser, William Lord Montacute became the owner, and on 6th March, 1333, as patron, presented Robert de Hadestok on the resignation of Walter Bot.

William de Tethwell was collated per lapsum temporis by Bishop Grandison, on March 16th, 1338.

Thomas de Wynkleigh was collated by the same prelate, July 1st, 1340.

David Kelyng was collated also by him "ad Paro-

chialem Ecclesiam Sancti Helene," August 14th, 1353.

Nicholas Comyng, on resigning Nymet Roland, was also collated by Bishop Grandison, February 3rd, 1355.

After this period there are no further institutions or notices of Lundy in the registers.

In the Rolls at Westminster is an entry, that at the suppression of monasteries Cleave Abbey had the patronage of the rectory of Lundy. Its only parish church was dedicated to St. Helena.

At the suppression of monasteries any endowment, if such ever existed, followed the fortunes of the Abbey, in whose gift the patronage lay. All spiritual supervision since then has been gratuitous, and provided by the owner for the time being.

Service was formerly held occasionally in the ruins of the church; but since Mr. Heaven's residence divine service has been regularly provided twice on Sundays, either in his own house or in a building near the farm, which has for many years had the advantage of being conducted by the Rev. H. G. Heaven. And whenever there have been children on the Island requiring it, school instruction has been given to the younger ones by the ladies of Mr. Heaven's family, and a night school, held by the Rev. Hudson G. Heaven, for the boys and young men.

The ruins, or rather site of the church, are still traceable. It was placed on the actual highest point

of the Island. Its measurement is: Length, 25ft. 7in.; breadth, 12ft. 9in. The walls, which were well built, and with the same peculiar clay cement as the Castle and round towers, are now nearly levelled to the ground, the final destruction having been wrought by the persons conducting the Ordnance Survey, who occupied the site as their signal station, using the stones of the old walls for their cairn; but there appears to have been some ornamentation, with arcades of worked stone, and an adjoining aisle or recess bears the name of the oratory of St. Ann. It is surrounded by a large burial-ground, enclosed by walls, bearing evidences of having been nearly filled with ancient interments, and is still used as such in the numerous cases of shipwrecked bodies cast on shore, and deaths occurring on the Island. Lord Say and Sele is said to have been interred in the church itself. Some short distance to the south a piece of land, nearly an acre in extent, is known as the Friars' Garden, the enclosure having a singular form, exactly the shape of an ancient grave or coffin, but the walls are now levelled.

CHAPTER VII.

CULTIVATION AND PRODUCTIONS.

State of Cultivation in early times—Inquisitions and Reports thereon in 1274 and 1321—Value of the Produce—Sir Thomas de la Moor's Description—Curious Discussion as to Wine being grown on the Island—Notes on its Cultivation and Products by Westcote, Risdon, and Camden—Report by Professor Martyn in 1776—Report by Mr. Cleveland's friends in 1787, and Account of their Visit—Report by Britton in 1802—Recent Improvements and Present State—Island much more Productive than formerly supposed—Soil—Guano—Enclosures—Stock—Land under Tillage—Main Sources of Revenue in the olden time—Mode of taking Sea-fowl—Value of their Feathers and Eggs—Danger of the Pursuit—Mr. Hole the Tenant Killed—Wanton Destruction of the Birds—Lobster and Oyster Fisheries—Whitebait.

HAVING brought down the survey of the political and general history of Lundy to the present time, I now turn to its productions and state of cultivation, in ancient as well as modern times. As to its ancient state there are manifest signs, from the marks of early cultivation with which it is covered, that it has not always been so barren and unproductive as at present, although the loftiness of the situation, the high winds which frequently prevail, laden with salt

particles, and the natural unproductiveness of the granite subsoil, prove incontestibly that the glowing accounts of some early writers are overwrought, or penned in error.

The inquisition made in 1274, when the Island escheated to the Crown, and that in 1321, on the estates of Sir John de Wyllyngton before referred to, may be supposed to give pretty accurate accounts of its state at those periods. In the first case the jury reported "that there may be there 20 acres of arable land which may be sown with barley or oats; each acre is worth per annum twopence, whether tilled or not. There are also five acres of meadow, worth threepence an acre. Also, pasture for eight oxen and twenty cows, with their offspring, for two years. Also, that in all, the pastures can bear 68 head of cattle, also four mares and one stallion, with their offspring, for two years, to wit, 13 head. There is also there pasture for 300 wethers and 200 ewes, with their offspring, for two years, to wit, pasture for 900 sheep. Also, the taking of rabbits is estimated at 2,000, and the estimate is at 5s. 6d. each 100 skins, because the flesh is not sold; also, the rock of gannets is worth 5s.; also other birds, but they are not sold. There is also the eyre of butcher falcons, which have sometimes three young ones, sometimes four. This eyre the jury knew not how to estimate, as they build their nests in a place in which they cannot be taken."

In the other inquisition (that of 1321) referred to, the jury reported: "There are in demesne 40 acres of arable land worth yearly 10s.; also, 200 acres of pasture land worth 16s. 8d. per annum; also three acres of meadow worth 2s. 6d.; also waste land, by estimation 200 acres, worth yearly 8s. 4d., so little because all the tenants in the Island have common on it." There appeared to be then eight tenants for the land, and one for the wild fowl.

I have before noticed the description of the Island given by Sir Thomas de la Moor in the reign of Edward II., that "it aboundeth with pasture ground, and oates very pleasant. It bringeth forth conies very plentiful, pigeons and other fowles. It aboundeth altogether with victuals, and is very full of wines, oile, honycome, braggot, salt, fish, flesh, and sea or earth coales." This passage gave rise to a curious question, considered in a paper by Rev. Mr. Pegge, read before the Antiquarian Society, and published in the *Archæologia* in 1771, "whether England formerly produced any wine made from grapes." The paper attempts to prove that such was the case, by recorded facts, and among others he says, "When, therefore, Sir Thomas de la Moor, in *The Life of Edward II.*, page 599, mentions the wine of the Island of Lundy, one has not the least reason to question his veracity, or to distrust his representation. Mr. Stow had certainly no objection to it."

In an answer by the Honourable Dames Barington,

read March, 1771, controverting the previous paper, he says: "It is said also, that the Isle of Lundy had formerly vineyards in it." Upon consulting the original, the passage runs thus: "Ad hanc Insulam victualibus universaliter abundantem, tamen abundante vino, oleo, melle frumento brasio carnibus et terresti carbone instuffatum."

All that he inferred from this passage was, that the Isle of Lundy, being in the Bristol Channel, was used to deposit smuggled goods in. If it is intended that the wine was produced on the Island itself, the same authority will prove that there were also olive-yards.

A glowing picture has been drawn of the prosperity of the Island previous to the descent of the French, in the reign of William III. Its population, from the statements made by John Sharp, who had been living on the Island fifty years, was at that time estimated at the probably exaggerated number of 100 persons, who carried on trade in the feeding of cattle, and the sale of feathers, eggs, and skins, and "it bore exceedingly fine barley, potatoes, and almost every kind of garden stuff in great abundance." This must have been overrated, as Westcote, about 1620, says of it, "That it hath been tilled in former times the furrows testify yet plainly, but what commodities came thereof is not known, neither will any man try again; there is so little hope of profit. The most profit that is now made of it is by hogs, conies, and

sea-fowl. Timber and wood it hath none, only a few stunted elders, which are haunted with such a multitude of stares that you can hardly come to them for the dunging of the birds."

Risdon, who wrote his account about 1630, only says, "Horses, kine, sheep, swine, and goats it affordeth, with stores of conies; but their chief commodity is fowl, whereof there is great abundance. I have even seen their eggs so thick on the ground, that unless you look to your way they must needs have been trodden on."

Camden, about the same time, says: "There are there 500 acres of good land, but the best part, for want of cultivation, is covered with furze and heath, and the whole land swarms with rabbits and black rats. Sea-fowl resort to it in summer, and in winter starlings and woodcocks. The rock is moorstone, covered with a soil formed from rotten vegetable matter—thickets at the south end." Like other authors, he refers to the furrows all over the Island, showing it to have been once cultivated.

In the manuscript journal of 1752, before quoted, we have a glimpse of its state at that period; but the evidence given by the Rev. Thomas Martyn, a professor of botany in the University of Cambridge, in the course of the Chancery proceedings in 1776, gives a much more minute account, which however must be taken with some reserve, as he appears to have gone there as an interested witness purposely

to depreciate its value. After giving the extent and acreage, he deposes: "That about 500 acres thereof, situate at the south end, were covered with a coarse grass, and might feed lean Welsh cattle; but that all the rest of the Island was, in his judgment, incorrigibly barren, and bore little else to cover the rock than heath and moss; and that where there was any soil the staple was mostly very shallow, and incapable, without very great expense, of any considerable improvement; and that the Island was so very high, and so subject to winds, that it would be difficult to grow corn to much advantage; and that it was so overrun with rats and rabbits that any crops which might be produced thereoff would, as he apprehended, be infallibly devoured by them; and that he was persuaded no trees had ever grown upon the said Island, nor could be forced to grow thereon to any purpose, without great care, expense, and difficulty; and that the said John Borlase Warren having caused many trees to be planted in the said Island in the spring of the year 1775, the deponant found that the same were all withered and dead; and that in his judgment the greatest advantage which could be made of the said Island would be by agisting of cattle, but that there would be great drawbacks upon that advantage from the great expense which would necessarily attend upon carrying the cattle to and from the nearest land, which is about three leagues; and that the said Island is distant eight leagues from

Ilfracombe, which is the most certain port or place where proper vessels can be procured to carry passengers, cattle, or goods; and that there was but one dwelling-house and remains of an old castle on the said Island, the said dwelling-house being small, and in a very ruinous state and condition; and that he, the said Thomas Martyn, was better able to depose with respect to the soil of the said Island, as he had made natural history and agriculture the chief study of his life."

Notwithstanding this discouraging report, it is stated on equally satisfactory evidence, in the journal of 1752, that "Sir John B. Warren expended above £6,000 in building and dividing the lands. The wall across the Island, dividing the improved from the unimproved parts, was begun by Mr. Benson in 1752, and finished by Sir John, and about 160 acres enclosed with fences."

The stock on the Island at that time was 20 cows, 2 bulls, 30 bullocks, 7 sheep, 7 horses, 30 hogs, 16 deer, and 7 goats. A note is appended, "The flesh of the hogs bred on the Island cannot be eat; the flesh is yellow and strong."

In the journal of the visit of Mr. Cleveland and his friends in July, 1787, are several particulars as to its then state of cultivation and produce. It was divided into three or four farms, let to several tenants, who had continual quarrels with each other; and it was the principal object of the visit to arrange the

disputes and swear in a constable for the Island, and much time was occupied in hearing and adjudging the complaints. Sir John Warren had stocked it with all sorts of game, and planted a great deal; but the birds of prey destroyed the game, and the violent winds the trees. They considered it capable of keeping 400 sheep, and cattle in proportion; but the stock was not then so much. Many deer and goats were seen browsing on the north parts. On being disturbed, they ran into the cleaves, where the ferns were so high that they soon became invisible. They shot a doe, but she proved but thin meat. The north part was then incapable of cultivation from Mr. Benson setting the heath and ferns on fire while he was in possession, so that the earth continued burning for some days, till it came to the bare rock, and nothing vegetable then grew on it. In the low land were a few willows about as high as brushwood, to which the woodcocks resorted in the beginning of their flight.

"They observed that the Island was capable of great improvement. About 160 acres were then enclosed in fields of seven, eight, and ten acres each —the produce wheat, barley, and oats. The fields which were then in cultivation produced naturally a small three-leafed grass like Dutch clover, and clover and eaver grass grew very well; but the inhabitants sowed but small crops. About the middle of the Island the land is low in comparison with the rest,

and the soil deeper; and where there is this appearance, you see it enclosed with large stones fixed endways in the earth. At the end of this low land are the remains of a dam or pond, which seems to have contained a large body of water. Springs abound. The water is very soft, clear, and pleasant to the taste."

A still later notice by Britton in 1802 states: "400 acres are now cultivated—300 arable, and the rest pasture; 400 sheep and 80 cattle feed there, with 12 deer, and a quantity of pigs and poultry. Wheat the principal produce; potatoes and turnips good."

It will be noticed that many of the foregoing statements and descriptions are irreconcileable with each other, and must to a great extent have been the result of imperfect information. The description of its soil and present capabilities, and the amount of stock and state of cultivation, which I am now enabled to give, has been furnished by a competent authority resident on the Island.

In the forty years which have elapsed since Mr. Heaven's occupation considerable improvements have been effected.

The judicious system now employed appears not only to have improved the productive powers of the Island by fostering its capabilities, and bringing many portions into cultivation which were formerly considered incorrigibly barren, but to have somewhat ameliorated the drawbacks of climate.

A comfortable residence has been erected in a pleasant and sheltered situation, commanding a magnificent view of the North Devon coast; and by trying experiments on the trees and plants most suitable to the locality, the owner has succeeded not only in obtaining arboreal shelter, but in ornamenting his grounds with shrubs generally only found to flourish in lower latitudes, as will be more fully noticed in the botanical chapter.

Improvement and cultivation, some years since, received a severe check, as during the existence of the granite works the company took also on themselves the occupation and working of the farms, but sadly neglected them, deteriorating the land, and greatly reducing the stock, and in fact causing considerable damage generally by the rough and mischievous conduct of their quarrymen and labourers; so that on the closing of the works everything had retrograded, and it has taken several years to restore things to their former position.

Although some portions of the surface have been swept bare by the violence of the winds, and the effects of fire, yet there has been much misconception as to the productive capabilities of the Island generally.

The notion also that there was no proper soil, except detritus, and no subsoil, is incorrect. The soil, of course, varies very much in depth, ranging

from four to five feet in some of the basins or hollows to zero, where the granite tors crop up; but a very common depth in the larger proportion of the yet reclaimed land, runs from twelve to twenty inches of good vegetable loam, with varying subsoil of stiff clay, or a gravelly sort of silt. In some places, at the bottoms of the small transverse dells, the soil is even as much as six feet deep. Even in the north farm there is some of the best land in the Island, only requiring draining and fence protection to return heavy crops, and which, even in its present state, will keep and fatten from four to five hundred sheep, besides affording coarse pasturage for colts and rough stock.

As the soil is not of an uniform depth, so it is by no means of an uniform character, as there is bog, clay, peat, black vegetable mould, red soil—some very light and dry, other close and retentive of moisture; some very sandy, other a rich garden mould. A few years since a considerable portion of land at the north end was laid waste by some excursionists setting fire to the grass and heath during a dry summer. The fire continued for about six weeks, by which time the whole of the peat composing the soil was completely burnt away, leaving the surface of the rock bare and exposed.

I should have observed that at the north end, the sloping declivities are covered with a thick layer of guano (somewhat mixed with detritus and the de-

cayed vegetable matter of the thrift tussocks), occasionally several feet in depth. Its value is no doubt very much diminished, if not rendered altogether inefficacious, by the ammonia and chemical salts being dissolved out by the moisture of the climate and frequent heavy rains; but no trial nor attempt to turn it to account appears to have been made.

The amount of enclosed drained and cultivated land is at present about 280 acres, of these 200 are in permanent pasture, and the remainder in barley, oats, potatoes, mangolds, turnips, rye, and flax. These all do well, particularly oats and swede turnips. Land which yields seventy bushels of oats to the acre, and straw at the same time more than six feet in height, and swede turnips of which eight to twelve roots not unfrequently turn the scale at one cwt., is hardly unprofitable cultivation.

The present stock on the Island is not up to its capabilities, as it has not been fully replenished since the denudation by the Granite Company. There are now about 600 sheep and 70 head of cattle, almost all bred on the place; but it would well carry 1,000 sheep, 100 horned stock, besides horses, &c. There is also a considerable stock of pigs and poultry—turkeys, geese, ducks, and fowls.

The staple sources of revenue in earlier times were the rabbits and the feathers, skins, and eggs of sea birds, as shewn by the inquisitions before quoted.

The frequently-quoted Journal of 1787 contains

an interesting account, and gives a good notion as to these natural productions and the means employed to secure them at that period, which I quote; but a fuller account of the birds themselves is given in the natural history portion of this volume. "After dinner we walked to view the rocks on the western part of the Island, and saw vast quantities of wild fowl, and the method of taking them in nets, which the inhabitants use for the advantage of their feathers. The nets are just the same as those commonly used for taking rabbits on warrens. They are fixed on the rocks, and sometimes on the ground on sticks in the breeding-places. Every morning and evening the natives watch their nets, and take out the birds that are entangled. They catch in a good season 1,700 or 1,800 dozen, and make one shilling per pound of their feathers. People from the neighbouring coasts are hired to pluck them at twopence per dozen, and pluck about four dozen per day. The birds usually taken are muirrs, of which there are two sorts—parrots and a small kind of gull. The parrots are about the size of a teal, with crooked and bright coloured bills, large heads, and beautiful plumage. These birds, it appears, annually forsake the Island when the young birds can fly, and are not seen again till the time returns for depositing their eggs. The natives collect these eggs and send them to the Bristol sugar refineries. The muirrs are the most profitable, twelve of them producing one pound of

feathers. After being plucked they are skinned; these skins are boiled in a furnace for the oil they yield, which is used instead of candles, and the flesh is given to the hogs, who feed on it voraciously. At the north part we found the birds so tame that we might shoot a dozen at a shot. The rocks on which they lay their eggs are wonderfully romantic, and appear as if the stones were piled on each other by art, looking like the ruins of some old fortification. There is one rock 200 feet high, disjointed from the Island, where innumerable quantities of birds lay their eggs. The inhabitants fix their nets on this rock, and catch vast quantities as they fly backward and forward from the sea to their young. Their method of conveying them when taken is by means of a rope fastened at each end to the Island and rock, on which hangs a basket to a pulley, which is drawn occasionally to and fro with the birds. The people run great hazards in taking them out of their nests, and sometimes lose their lives." In 1780 Mr. Hole, the tenant farmer, lost his life in this pursuit. He is supposed to have slipped over the rocks with a basket of eggs, as he was found dead on the beach the following morning. He was buried in the same grave in the chapel ruins from which he had removed, as he thought, the bones of Lord Say and Sele. The eggs are still taken in considerable numbers by sailors and trespassers, as well as by fishermen from the neighbouring coasts. The collector is let down

from above by a rope, and as he traverses the ledges he picks up the eggs and places them in a girdle, or pocket, round his waist. They are frequently offered for sale by the fishermen's children at Ilfracombe, where they are in great demand by visitors for their peculiarity of marking and shape and vividness of colour. On Lundy they are used for cookery purposes, but are not eaten alone, except by the poorer labourers. A large amount appears at some periods to have been realized from the skins, feathers, and eggs. At one time 1,000 couple of rabbits were taken on the average yearly, principally valued for their skins.

In 1816, 379 pounds of feathers were plucked by the women, 24 puffins yielding one pound of feathers. But since the present owner's occupation neither birds nor their eggs or feathers have been a source of revenue, and rabbits only in a very slight degree. The only profit made from eggs is by pilferers and trespassers, who carry them off without leave or licence, and sell them on the main land for curiosities.

Large quantities of lobsters are caught along the coasts, and sent to Bristol; and the experiment of forming an oyster-bed has been tried, a suitable part of the coast having been stocked with young oysters a few years since. The result has not yet been fully proved, but so far is not encouraging.

Mackerel and other deep-sea fish are caught to some extent; but the bottom round the Island is not

suitable for trawling. What Mr. Heaven considers the real white-bait, or, at all events, a fish very similar to it, is occasionally taken in large quantities.

The shell-fish, especially lobsters, are showing signs of diminution, having been much fished for of late years. Still they are abundant, and much valued, a Lundy lobster commanding a special price. There are no accurate returns; but from rough calculations, based upon what have been caught and sent away at various times during the fishing season—from the beginning of April to the end of August—the average yearly exportation may be put down at from 2,000 to 2,500 fish, including lobsters, crabs, and crawfish altogether.

CHAPTER VIII.

POPULATION.

Ancient Population—Traces of Villages—Number of Inhabitants at various Periods—Lighthouse—Origin and Description—Signal-gun Battery.

THERE are no certain data for even an approximation to the population in ancient times, as the few detatched notices on the subject are contradictory. The quantity of human bones—not only those found in burial-places, but those which have from time to time been ploughed up—show that if not actually inhabited, it was at all events the resort of great numbers of people in prehistoric times, and the numerous ancient remains, both military and domestic, indicate a considerably larger population than at present. There are traces of no less than seven or eight groups of cottages or villages in various parts of the Island, some of which have traditional names attached to them, but no records remain as to when they were abandoned and fell into ruin. In 1794 there were, according to Grose,

only seven houses on the Island, and twenty-three inhabitants, while in the time of Lord Say and Sele they were estimated at above 100. According to the census of 1871 the number of inhabited houses was ten, and the population 144. There was of late years a large temporary increase consequent on the granite works, in which above 200 workmen besides the staff were employed, and several houses and cottages were erected for their accommodation; but the company having ceased its operations, they have all left, and the deserted houses and works now greatly detract from the picturesqueness of the place. It is now inhabited only by the owner, Mr. Heaven, his family and establishment, a farm manager and his family and servants, a few labourers, who are also employed as fishermen and eggers, and the Trinity House officials in charge of the lighthouse and their families, numbering at present forty-three permanent residents, which is below the average of many years past, but in the summer is occasionally much increased by visitors, some of whom occupy the cottages left tenantless by the granite company.

A history of the Island would be incomplete without some description of its most prominent object, the lighthouse.

The first movement in this direction is indicated in the journal of 1787, where they speak of "a walk to the chapel and to Beacon Hill to determine which was the highest spot for erecting a lighthouse, the

merchants of Bristol having offered to build one at their own expense, if Mr. Cleveland was agreeable, and had appointed to meet him that week on the Island to fix on a proper spot." Nothing however came of it until 1819, when the Trinity House took the matter in hand, and obtained a long lease of a suitable spot on the highest point of the Island, with a roadway to it, and erected a very handsome light-house eighty feet in height. The lights as seen from the sea are two; the westerly light, which is seen by vessels coming up Channel, in a broad, steady band of light, and is also useful to vessels as warning them when they are getting too near the shore, as it then disappears, being shut out by the intermediate summit of the cliffs. The other and main light is a revolving lantern on the top, which from its construction permits a subdued but permanent light to be visible all round, and as the lantern contains eight series of lenses, and revolves once in sixteen minutes, it sends out streams of brilliant flashes visible every two minutes, the combination of lenses producing an intense glare when the centre of each revolving series comes into the line of vision—gradually decreasing until the dimmest point is reached, and then an equally gradual increase to the brightest. Within a circle of a few miles, and for a much greater distance when viewed by a telescope, the light never quite disappears, but the vivid glare of the central flash may be seen in a propitious state

of the atmosphere until sunk below the horizon by the curvature of the earth.

The total height of the tower above the sea is 567 feet, that of the upper revolving light being 540, and the lower lantern at the basement 470 feet.

It is ascended by 147 steps, and commands a magnificent prospect. The whole of the Island can be taken in at a single sweep of the eye in favourable weather, the Welsh coast rising bold and clear from the margin of the Bristol Channel, with the black mountains standing as giant sentinels in the dim distance towards the north-west, and the Devonshire coast line from Hartland Point all around the Bay to the south and east. The jutting headlands and the coast far up the Channel appear as sharp and clear as the lines in a map. The lighthouse is supplemented by a signal-gun battery, which is half a mile distant to the northward from the lighthouse, the pathway being marked with short pillars of granite. It is built on the extreme verge of a dangerous cliff, and is approached by a zigzag path by the side of a low wall and over the cliff. The battery consists of two eighteen-pounders, and a round is fired every ten minutes in foggy weather.

CHAPTER IX.

GEOLOGY.

Peculiar Geological Features—Notices by Geologists—General Description—Granite—Slate—Greenstone Dykes—The Quarries and Granite Company's Works—Varieties of the Granite—Used in olden times for Churches—Failure of the Company—Mineral Products—Copper Ore—Rare Minerals.

THE very peculiar geological features of Lundy deserve more than a mere general notice.

To those who wish to study the connection of its structure with that of other granite formations, and the relations which subsist between its rocks and those of the mainland, I would refer to the few notices which have been published by known geologists.

De la Beche, in his "Report on the Geology of the Western Counties," very casually refers to Lundy as a patch of granite, the superficial extent of which beneath the waters of the Bristol Channel is unknown.

An article in the *Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society*, in 1846, by Rev. D. Williams, describes the peculiarities of the granite, and the phenomena pre-

sented by it, in comparison with the other granites of Devon and the Quantocks.

Mr. Etheridge, in his paper on the "Physical Structure of Somerset and North Devon," incidentally refers to the slates and dykes of Lundy; and more recently Mr. Townshend M. Hall has contributed to the *Transactions of the Devonshire Association* a full descriptive paper on its geology and mineralogy generally, from which the concise account given in this chapter is principally derived.

It has already been frequently mentioned that the principal part of Lundy consists of granite, and that the south-east corner consists of slate, the two rocks meeting each other with a very sharp and distinct junction.

The granite probably consists of a boss, extruded from below, the actual extent of which beyond the limits of the cliffs is not ascertained. The main joints run parallel with the line of junction with the slate. The granite is described by Mr. Williams as occupying a dyke or chasm, having a north-east and south-west direction. "It abuts directly against the slate as a vertical lofty wall. There are no granitic veins penetrating the slates, and there is little alteration produced in them, except a slight induration at the place of contact; while, on the other hand, the granite is greatly altered at the contact, and that to a distance of ten or twelve feet, gradually changing from a well-defined grey syenite, through several

varieties of hornblende rock, to the condition of a black hornblendic trap of a somewhat schistose structure. It has not, however, been gradually metamorphosed, or at least there are appearances more perfectly syenitic on each side of the hornblende rocks." The Lundy granite varies in several particulars from other masses of the same rock, which have protruded themselves through the sedimentary rocks of Devon and Cornwall, and it also varies considerably, in structure, colour, and quality, in different parts of the Island. It decomposes readily on the surface, forming a small gravelly detritus, the white colour of which contrasts forcibly with the black vegetable mould. Schorl is far from abundant as a component, but there are occasionally thin irregular veins of a fine-grained granitic substance (eurite?) traversing the rock.

The large quarries which have lately been worked by the Lundy Granite Company, situated on the east side of the island, afford excellent sections both of the fine and coarse-grained granite, as well as examples of its jointed structure. Along the tops of the precipitous cliffs on the opposite or western side are a series of "tors" (locally known by the name of The Cheeses), formed by a number of horizontal layers of granite with their edges rounded, piled one on the top of the other, and presenting at a distance the appearance of a stratified rock. This structure, which is also frequently observed on Dartmoor, is due to

the intersection of the almost perpendicular joints or divisional planes, with a second series of joints running in a horizontal direction, the rounded outlines being caused by the greater tendency of the rock to be disintegrated along those surfaces which are in proximity to its joints or bedding.

With respect to the slates occupying the south-east corner, Mr. Etheridge considers them "as the equivalents of the Morthoe slates in the North Devon series, and the dykes as belonging to a grand system of intrusive greenstones, there being no less than sixty dykes, varying from one foot to thirty feet in width, that traverse this remarkable island from east to west in the space of two and a half miles, affecting both granite and slates alike."

Mr. Hall says, "That these slates existed before the intrusion of the granite is shown by the very marked manner in which they are abruptly cut off by the latter rock, contrary to their line of strike, instead of being folded or contorted round its base. In their petrological characters, as well as in their general appearance, these silvery slates closely resemble those of Ilfracombe or Morthoe in the North Devonian group. They are much plicated, and intersected with quartz veins, in this latter particular coinciding with the Morthoe slates."

If we except a very indefinite marking, which may possibly belong to a vegetable impression, no fossils have hitherto been discovered in Lundy; and

this absence of organic remains renders it most difficult to prove to which of the two systems the slates should be referred, especially as in the corresponding portion of North Devon the two great systems pass quite insensibly one into the other, without any distinct line of separation between them. Supposing the Lundy slates to be the equivalent of either the Morthoe or Ilfracombe series, it is moreover difficult to account for the fact that they have been thrust south by the intrusion of the granite, instead of in a northerly direction, as might have been expected, considering the direction from which the upheaving force must have proceeded.

The line of junction between the slate and the granite at Lundy is nearly everywhere obscured by a superstratum of soil, except along the cliffs on either side. The residence of Mr. Heaven, the proprietor of the island, is built exactly upon the boundary of the two rocks.

On the singular geological feature of Lundy—the dykes—Mr. Hall remarks: "Numerous intrusive dykes of greenstone penetrate both the granite and slate alike, but especially along the eastern shore. The most conspicuous of these is one which runs through the slate near the landing-place, and stands up like a great perpendicular wall about eight feet in thickness. In immediate proximity to this, and also penetrating the slates, are several others visible at low-water. Amongst them there are several very

beautiful porphyries of various kinds, which have been rounded and polished by the action of the waves. Of the dykes intersecting the granite I noticed two or three which had decomposed so freely on the surface that they had crumbled away into a coarse sand. Others again, undergoing a more partial decay, have left nodules protruding from the mass, with a spheroidal structure like those which are occasionally met with in the basaltic districts of Antrim and Londonderry."

As connected with the geology, I must here give a passing notice to the granite works. A company was formed in 1863 to work the granite rock, of the value of which great expectations were formed. It was intended to be used for the Thames Embankment, and other public works in London. The stone varied in character, and after trying several places, they opened up two quarries which offered excellent sections of the coarse and fine-grained granite. The first of these did not appear to answer their expectations, the quality of the stone being too porous, but the second was of a very fine quality, yielding a good polish when worked, and of a very close grain. The company placed a very valuable plant on the works, erected cottages for workmen, formed a tramway down to the beach, with a wooden jetty for loading the granite, and it was intended to construct a floating pier. For a time the speculation was a success, large quantities of stone were raised and

supplied for public and private works, and great anticipations were raised as to the benefits all connected with it would derive; but from difficulties in shipping the stone, as also from mismanagement, and other causes which it is unnecessary to refer to, the company was obliged to be wound up, and the works are now altogether abandoned. The scene of operations of the company was on the east coast, and at about the middle of the Island. The granite at different parts varies very much in quality, and it is not at all certain that the places opened by the company were the best. That quarries must have been worked in former times is evident, as the Lundy granite is largely used in many of the churches and towers along the north coasts of Devon and Cornwall.

The refuse shot over the precipices until it formed sloping mounds many hundred feet high, white with the particles of mica and quartz, give a peculiar and not pleasing effect to the cliffs as seen from the shore or passing vessels.

There are no other available mineral products. Copper ore is found at the point of junction of the slate and granite at the south-east end. At one time it was thought it could be profitably worked, and a shaft was opened, but the quantity was too trivial, and it was abandoned.

In the course of Mr. Hall's examination of the Island, the following minerals came under his observation, as occurring in the granite.

Beryl, in small columnar crystals of a yellowish-white colour.

Felspar, in white tabular crystals.

Fluor, crystallized and massive; some of the varieties are locally called amethysts. Found in some abundance with the granite pebbles on the west coast.

Garnet, in decomposed granite.

Mica, in plates, and hexagonal crystals.

Rock crystal, transparent, and frequently of a fine dark brown or black colour.

Schorl, in black radiating fibres and crystals, occasionally penetrating the quartz.

Of these the felspar, mica, and quartz, which form the component parts of the granite, are found best crystallized in the thin, irregular veins traversing the main body of the rock, and lining sides of fissures. China clay, resulting from the disintegration of the felspar, is also occasionally met with, but so impregnated with iron as to be comparatively useless for manufacturing purposes.

In the slate there are veins and strings of gossan, containing

Blende—sulphuret of zinc, traces.

Towanite—copper pyrites.

Magnetite—magnetic iron ore, occurs in a vein in the cliffs below Benjamin's Chair.

Quartz, amorphous and crystalline, is found in veins traversing the slate in every direction, and

appears to be the most abundant amongst the non-metallic minerals.

A radiating zeolite, the species of which is not yet determined, occurs in small quantities embedded in the blocks of greenstone which have fallen from the upper part of the dyke near the landing-place.

CHAPTER X.

NATURAL HISTORY.

No published Accounts—Every Department peculiar—Only partially Investigated—Animals—Black Rats—The Red Rat—Terrestrial Mammalia—Seals—Birds of Lundy—Seasons of Migration—Rare Birds—Winter Resort of Woodcock and Quails—A Paradise for Sportsmen—Other Game destroyed—Some Birds almost new to British Ornithology—Aquatic Birds—Their Profusion and Tameness—Local Names—Extinct Species—Evidence as to Recent Existence of Great Auk—Gannets—Destruction of Sea Birds—Parts most frequented—Food of the Sea Birds—Authorities for Catalogue of Birds—Entomology—Lepidoptera—Coleoptera—Hymenoptera—Authorities for each—Similarity to Wales in its Coleopterous Fauna—Other Rare Insects.

I NOW come to the natural history of the Island, its fauna and flora, in both of which it is peculiar and specially interesting. I know of no published accounts of the natural history, nor indeed of any full account, published or unpublished, of any one branch of it, except Mr. Wollaston's papers on the coleoptera, which are not by any means exhaustive, as he only worked the Island in the summer time twice—for about six weeks in all.

In fact it requires a continuous residence of a year or more to properly investigate any one branch of its zoology or botany. The Island has been frequently visited by naturalists who make special branches their study, and to some of them I am indebted for the information here given. A few desultory notices have been given in periodicals and local prints. Mr. Parfitt has recently included the ornithology in his *Fauna of Devon;* but his catalogue was compiled not from personal investigation, but mainly from the list in the earlier edition of this work, with revisions and additions by Mr. Heaven and others.

Mr. F. Smith, of the British Museum, has given his attention to the entomology generally, and is the only authority for the hymenoptera. Mr. Gosse and a few others have noted some particulars of the botany; but in that, as well as in many of the branches of natural history, we are mainly indebted to the Rev. Hudson G. Heaven, who has for many years resided on the Island, and made them his study.

The present notices on these subjects do not lay claim to completeness, nor even to scientific exactness of arrangement or nomenclature, but are derived from the best authorities which can be obtained, and especially from local information and assistance. This also applies to the several lists at the end of this volume, which have been carefully compiled, and

the authorities stated, as far as possible; but in treating each subject, a popular rather than a scientific form has been aimed at.

ANIMALS.

The indigenous terrestrial mammalia are represented by two animals only—rats and rabbits, both of which abound. The old English black rat, *mus rattus*, is the indigenous, and until recently was the only species on the Island; but of late years the Norway, or brown rat, has found his way there, most probably from some shipwrecked vessel, and bids fair to exterminate the native breed.

Grose, in his description of Lundy, in 1775, says: "Rats are so numerous here as to be very troublesome. They are all of the black sort. The great brown rat, which has extirpated this kind all over Britain, not having yet found its way here."

Mr. Heaven, writing this present year, reports them as increasingly numerous, and the black rat nearly extinct. They principally frequent the south end, and Rat Island swarms with them. They are believed to feed largely on fish, as well as on limpets and other littoral prey. Specimens of a third variety, of a reddish or fox-colour, are sometimes seen and killed. It is called locally the red rat. It has much larger ears, and a longer and thinner tail than the ordinary rat, but in other respects resembles it, and they appear to consort together. Whether it is a

peculiar variety, or a mere sport, I am unable to ascertain. It is scarce, and is but rarely captured, but is persistent on the Island.

The shrew mouse is also found; but no other mice, nor moles, stoat, or other vermin, nor any snakes or reptiles, exist on the Island. A local fable, which exists even in this small community, attributes it to St. Patrick having called at Lundy on his way to Ireland.

Rabbits inhabit the steep declivities all round the Island, and make extensive burrows, which are frequently taken possession of by the puffins for their breeding-places.

Seals frequent the Island in considerable numbers. The only species identified is the common spotted seal, *Phoca vitulina*. No less than five have been killed at one time in the Seal Cavern, which is their principal place of resort; but they have much diminished during the last few years, owing to their reckless persecution by the crews of pilot and tug-boats.

BIRDS.

Birds form the most prominent as well as the most remarkable feature on the Island. Not only do many varieties remain permanently, and nest there, but its position in midchannel invites the attention of passing migrants at the two great seasons of migration—the spring and autumn. Birds which are considered

as great rarities in the British List, appear on Lundy with some regularity, and occasionally in considerable numbers. The beautiful rose-coloured pastor and the hoopoe are frequently met with in spring. There are other birds which are more common, but whose appearance on Lundy at the seasons of migration is generally in such numbers as to be worthy of note. Instances are the quail and landrail in the spring and early autumn, and later in the year the woodcock. Their arrival on Lundy generally precedes their appearance on the mainland by several days. Should the winter be exceptionally severe, and especially should there be a heavy fall of snow, large flights of woodcock seek a more genial climate in Lundy, with its numerous springs, which never freeze entirely in the hardest frost. They find shelter in the little valleys, in the boggy ground formed by the streams, and in the steep cleaves on the eastern side, locally called the "Sidelands." The Island is then a paradise for sportsmen, as in addition to the woodcock, snipes, plover, wild duck, widgeon, and teal are sufficiently numerous to afford first-rate sport, and the bags which have been made on some occasions have been immense. A friend who has kindly communicated some particulars says: "I was there on one occasion when it was crowded with cocks. I did not keep an exact record of the bag we made, and forbear from setting down any number of the slain, as much from the fear that I should underrate it, as that I should

exaggerate." The young of the woodcock have not been found, though the old birds have been seen as late as May, and also reported in August. Partridges, grouse, and pheasants have at various times been introduced, but have never flourished, and generally disappear after a few years. The rats and birds of prey have generally had the credit of destroying them; a friend, however, appends a note to this: "But the *Bipes implumis*, in the shape of poachers, has had by far the greatest share in rendering the attempts to acclimatize game and rare birds futile, the disappearance of the game being generally coincident in time with the periods of non-residence by the family."

It is not only the variety, but the comparative rarity of many of the birds which frequent this curious Island, as seen by the list appended, which is most deserving of notice; some of them, such as the subalpine warbler (*Sylvia subalpina bonelli*), almost new to British ornithology. The chaffinch, linnet, song thrush, lark, wren, robin, stonechat, hedge-accentor, yellow-hammer, meadow-pipit, and rock-pipit are common; but what is strange, the house-sparrow is very rarely found. The peregrine falcon and kestrel are residents, and the osprey used to be frequently seen.

The aquatic birds, however, are what strike the visitor with the greatest astonishment, as well for their numbers as their tameness. They swarm by

tens of thousands around the Island, creating a confusion and din almost indescribable. Mr. Gosse gives a graphic description of his first introduction to them: "We turn the corner of a pile of rock, and stand in the midst of myriads of birds; we are on an inclined plane composed of numberless hillocks of red earth, with great boulders of granite rock. On these, on the hillocks, and in the hollows between, sit the birds, indifferent to our presence until within two or three yards of them; the air, too, is filled with them like a cloud; thousands and tens of thousands are flying round in a vast circle or orbit, the breadth of which reaches from where we stand to half a mile seaward. But the earth and air are not the only spheres occupied by these birds. Look down on the sea; its shining face is strewn as far as you can discern anything with minute black specks associated in flocks or groups, some comprising few, others countless individuals."

Mr. Wollaston, on his entomological visit, was much impressed with the birds. He says: "An object when once seen can certainly never be forgotten, is the innumerable quantity of sea birds which swarm by tens of thousands in every part of the Island, and create a confusion and din which it has seldom been my lot to witness."

In some places where the cliffs are perpendicular they may be seen all along the little ledges sitting in rows, row above row, as close as they can place

themselves, and every little inequality or vantage-ground taken possession of. They are in some places packed so thick that they may be killed wholesale by merely rolling stones from the edges of the cliff; indeed, one gentleman stated that he had knocked down six with one stone, and had seen twenty-seven bagged from a single shot, not reckoning many more which were knocked over partially wounded. The greater proportion of these birds consist of the razor-billed auk, the puffin, or Lundy parrot, the guillemot, and several varieties of gulls; but the permanent and occasional visitors to the Island comprise a great many varieties. The name murr is applied locally to both the razor-billed auk and guillemot, the one being called the razor-billed murr, the other the picked-bill murr. There is reason to believe that one of the rarest, if not an extinct, species of British birds, the great auk (*Alca impennis*), formerly frequented the Island, and that specimens have been seen alive, and bred there within the last forty years. One was found dead in 1829, and an egg was found and brought to Mr. Heaven in 1838. Unfortunately the specimen was not preserved; and naturalists do not consider the claim sufficiently established, as it rests mainly on tradition, the egg being suggested as merely an abnormal or double-yolked guillemot's egg. It had the same shape and marking, and was just double the size of an ordinary murr's egg. The man who found it had lived on the Island, and been em-

ployed in egging nearly thirty years, and professed to be well acquainted with the bird which laid it, saying it was very rare to get them, as there were only two or three king-murrs ever on the Island. He described them as being like the razor-billed auk, only much larger; and he did not think they could fly, as he never saw them on the wing, nor high up the cliffs, like the other birds, their eggs being laid only a little way above high-water. He thought they had deserted the Island, as he had not seen them for fifteen years before, but that they sometimes saw nothing of them for four or five years together, which he accounted for by supposing the birds had fixed on a spot inaccessible to the eggers. He knew no other name for them than "king-murrs," which he said the islanders called them because they were so big, and stood up so bold-like. He described their appearance and colour, and said no one had ever succeeded in catching one, because they were always so close to the water, and skuttled into it so fast. The existence of these strange birds had been traditional on the Island when he came to it, but were very scarce. He himself never knew of more than one couple at a time. These statements were made in 1839, and the man is long dead. The facts and evidence bearing on the point were communicated to *The Zoologist* by the Rev. Murray A. Matthew, in a letter dated December 4th, 1865.

Gannets appear at one time to have been very

plentiful. They are continually referred to in the old record as constituting one of the chief sources of the riches and revenue of the Island. Gannet Rock and Cove were so called from the hosts of birds that made it their head-quarters, but they, as well as the other sea-birds, are perceptibly and rapidly decreasing in numbers, from the incessant and reckless robbery of their nests during the breeding season, principally by the crews of pilot and tug-boats, and the oyster-catcher has been nearly exterminated by them, being much prized for eating.

The present owner discourages the destruction of the birds, but within the last few years the fashion of wearing sea-birds' plumes in ladies' hats has led to a considerable amount of unauthorized destruction of the birds, principally by boats sent to the vicinity of the Island for that purpose; and much wanton slaughter has been committed by visitors shooting them down, as they sit in rows, indiscriminately, old and young, for the mere pleasure of slaughter, and without the probability of obtaining them when shot. This system has led to a scarcity of late in some of the rarer varieties.

The wanton mischief committed by visitors, who have ill requited the liberality of the proprietor, Mr. Heaven, in allowing them to land and range freely over the Island, not only by the destruction of his birds, but by firing the heath and furze, until the very soil itself is burnt out and destroyed in many

places down to the bare rock, has led to arrangements being made to prevent indiscriminate trespassers, which, it may be hoped, will tend to put a stop to the destruction, and repress the excesses complained of, without interfering with the enjoyment of those who visit the Island, attracted there by its romantic beauty, and the peculiarity of its natural history.

The different varieties of sea-birds for the most part congregate at different places, though each species does not keep so strictly to one locality as not to intermingle in any degree. The part of the Island more particularly frequented by them extends from the Gannet Rock on the east, round the north, and almost all along the west coast, there being comparatively few to be seen at the south end and south-east corner, except when following a shoal of fish. The sloping declivities at the north are covered with a thick layer of guano and decayed vegetation, in some places several feet in thickness, and the greater number of the birds build in the crevices and holes burrowed in these slopes, nearly all the holes being more or less connected.

The young of the sandlaunce, and a small fish or fry locally called brit, are the favourite prey of all the aquatic birds, and the rough waters and races off the different points of the Island and round the submerged rocks are their favourite fishing resorts.

The appended list is compiled from reports of visitors at various periods, from 1787 to the present

time, and has been materially added to and revised by Mr. Heaven.

With very few exceptions, all those enumerated have been seen and identified by him or his brother. In some few cases, though they failed to bag the specimens seen, they were allowed a sufficiently close inspection to make their identification scarcely doubtful, though the occurrence of some of them—for instance, the crested wren and whinchat, as well as the glossy ibis—may appear improbable to naturalists unacquainted with the peculiarities of the Island.

Neither the list itself nor its arrangement and divisions must be considered exact, as some of the birds set down as visitants occasionally stop to breed, but not every year; and strictly arboreal birds, like the sylviadæ, would only be seen occasionally on their passage; and among the small passerine birds it is impossible without careful and prolonged observation to say which are really resident, and which are only accidental visitors.

The last division, marked doubtful, includes a few observed by Mr. Heaven, or reported by trustworthy persons, but not certainly identified, being principally young, or in immature plumage, others only seen on the wing. Several other species have been observed, but so casually and hastily, and at such unfrequent intervals, as to preclude any attempt to fix their identity.

ENTOMOLOGY.

Insect life is rife on the Island, though to an entomologist nothing could at first sight be more unpromising.

Of three orders only can I find any satisfactory details, or obtain materials for lists; namely, the lepidoptera, the coleoptera, and the hymenoptera.

In the first class the appended list of butterflies and moths is communicated by the Rev. H. G. Heaven, and is the result of his own researches alone, the Island not having undergone any exhaustive examination in this department by any professed entomologist. It consists only of those specimens which he has been able to identify, and he wishes the same remarks to apply, as he has hereafter stated, with respect to the botanical catalogue. The correct modern nomenclature of the butterflies has been added by A. G. Butler, Esq., of the British Museum.

The coleoptera have been worked by two well-known naturalists, Mr. Wollaston and Mr. Frederick Smith, of the British Museum, and the list in the appendix is formed from their reports. Mr. Wollaston visited Lundy in 1844 and 1845, and collected 153 species and varieties of beetles, to which Mr. F. Smith added twenty-eight further species in 1870 and 1874. Mr. Wollaston published the results of his visits in *The Zoologist*, giving several curious particu-

lars as to the Island generally; and especially he remarks not only on the great variety and rarity of the specimens found on what at first would appear a most unpromising spot, but also on the singular fact that they were for the most part totally different from those found on the adjacent coasts of North Devon. He naturally expected to meet with the same species, and was not a little surprised to find them entirely different. Of those which occurred in actual profusion on the opposite shore he could not find so much as an example on Lundy, whereas insects which he had never observed in any part of Devon, and which, if they exist at all, are undoubtedly exceedingly rare, were here in abundance. The result of a close investigation and comparison was to prove that the coleoptera of Lundy were almost entirely of the character, and in most cases identical with those of Wales, of which he gives several remarkable instances and proofs, and showed that out of 153 species which he captured at Lundy, no less than 109 are peculiar to Wales, and are not found in Devonshire at all. In conclusion he remarks: "The instances given will show how far different is the state of things along the northern shores of Devon and Cornwall from Lundy, which, although separated from the land by so narrow a space, and although Lundy is itself a portion both naturally and artificially of the county of Devon, has nevertheless a coleopterous fauna utterly dissimilar, and,

comparatively speaking, peculiar. I attempt not to account for this singular fact, but it is certainly a very remarkable one, and inasmuch as it may bear strongly on the general question of geographical distribution it is certainly worth recording."

These observations of Mr. Wollaston must be somewhat qualified by the fact that subsequent observers have discovered many of the species named by him as peculiar to Wales and Lundy also subsisting in Devon, as pointed out by Mr. Parfitt in his *Fauna of Devon.*

Mr. Wollaston also says, with reference to the lists: "To these I may add an apparently undescribed species of hydroporus, a singular variety of *Nedyus contractus*, and also what I conceive to be a new species of *Macrocnema* (described). Of *Mantura chrysanthemi*, an insect which is usually considered extremely rare, I took several curious varieties, as also of *Antho nomus ater.*

Mr. F. Smith attributes the fact of his finding so many beetles not in Mr. Wollaston's list, strictly referable to his having collected in a different month. It is therefore probable that the catalogue may yet be greatly extended.

The list of hymenoptera is entirely the work of Mr. F. Smith, of the British Museum, the result of his captures in 1870 and 1874. He remarks that in all probability there are double the number to be found on the Island, his visits having been all in the

month of August; and had he a few fine days in June he could no doubt considerably increase the list, which can by no means be supposed to give an idea of the hymenopterous fauna.

Mr. F. Smith has also added to his list two or three species of homoptera, &c., which he found casually. Besides these, I have it on the authority of Mr. Waterhouse, of the British Museum, that a new and unnamed species of psylloides occurs on Lundy which is not known elsewhere; and the rare insect *Calasoma sycophanta* has also been found there.

But this remarkable Island, as a field for research in insect life, is yet far from being worked out.

CHAPTER XI.

BOTANY AND MARINE PRODUCTS.

Peculiarities of Climate—Moisture—Winds—Half-hardy Plants Flourish during Winter: Some with extraordinary Luxuriance —Furze and Fern: Special Varieties—Old-fashioned Herbs persistent near Ancient Ruins—Authorities for Catalogue of Plants—Marine and Littoral—Sea-weeds—Crabs and Lobsters —Zoophytes—Wrecks—Storms.

THE botany of Lundy partakes much of the same peculiar character as its natural history, and the ordinarily-received opinion of its barren and impracticable character must on closer examination be materially modified. In some respects the climatic influences are antagonistic. On one hand, the persistent moisture and the almost entire absence of frost would favour the growth of a vegetation belonging to a lower latitude. On the other, the fierce south-westerly winds, which sometimes literally sweep the Island, check the full growth of trees, and the full development of shrubs and inland plants, unless protected.

It has been frequently stated that the violent winds had frustrated all attempts to grow trees; but

of those planted by Sir John Warren, most were growing when Sir Aubrey de Vere Hunt took possession, and were then cut down and used as fuel. The other attempts appear to have failed as much from want of due care subsequently, as from want of judgment in selecting the proper varieties, and their proper position, and not providing them some protection in the first instance.

The trees planted by the present owner are nearly all living, and some are sturdy plants of 25 or 30 feet in height, with stocks proportionably large; and, judging from the small experiments hitherto made, it is probable that the whole of the east sidelands might be successfully planted.

The sycamore answers best of all; then the pinaster, willow, and *Araucaria imbricata*; then the common ash and oak. The alder does well by the streamlets.

That only very hardy shrubs will thrive is also a mistake, as many plants regarded as half-hardy in most parts of England, requiring protection in the winter, here stand out all the year without protection. Thus there are hedges of fuchsias; the hydrangea grows to a height of eight or nine feet, and often flowers up to Christmas; the rhododendron has naturalized itself, and is fast spreading from self-sown seedlings. The mesembryanthemum and gazania live out through the winter. Even on the west coast, exposed to the full blast of the prevalent winds, and therefore comparatively barren, there is no de-

ficiency in vegetation and flowers. The foxglove, thrift, tormentil, *Sedum anglicum*, heather, and others, in their proper seasons form masses of colour among the cliffs; and the bracken, which grows luxuriantly along the whole eastern sidelands, considerably overtopping the head, is common enough also on the west, but puts on a very different appearance, not exceeding eight inches in height, every pinnule being recurved, almost resembling a *Nephrodium æmulum*. The very furze, which, mixed with heather, overruns this portion of the Island, is not *Europæus*, but the dwarf form *Nanus*. Some of the plants however, in sheltered situations, attain to more than their usual size, and are even described as gigantic. A specimen of *Digitalis purpurea*, gathered by Mr. H. Heaven, showed the extraordinary number of 365 flowers, not including unexpanded buds.

One curious fact has been communicated to me by Mr. Matthew. There are various tumuli and mounds to be found in the Island, which are supposed to mark the sites of cottages long since destroyed, as about them grow many old-fashioned flowers and herbs, such as are now rarely to be met with.

Some further botanical details will be found in the previous chapter on the productions and state of cultivation.

The appended catalogue of plants has been formed from a list drawn up by the Rev. H. G. Heaven, aided by Mr. Etheridge, of Jermyn Street Museum,

with some additions from Mr. Gosse's journal and various visitors. Mr. Heaven, to whose botanic research this catalogue is mainly due, writes that "it was made during a course of years as I managed to identify each specimen, and no doubt inaccuracies will be found in it. It is by no means exhaustive, as I have refrained carefully from putting down any which I had not properly identified; but I may have unwittingly confused one variety with another, and whenever I felt a doubt between a commoner or rarer species I have always put down the former, or noted the doubt by a ?, and when not sure of the present existence of any particular plant it is denoted by ??, as some of the poisonous plants, which until recently were found, have been eradicated by the present owner, and others, such as the maidenhair fern, have probably become extinct." Of course, also many of the plants named are modern introductions, and not indigenous. No attempt has been made to classify the catalogue.

MARINE AND LITTORAL.

Mr. Gosse reports that he has seen nothing in the marine fauna or flora especially distinguishing Lundy from the neighbouring coasts. A shore composed of granite rocks and boulders, which afford few interstices or cavities in which water will lie in pools, seldom offers much to reward the search; but the small portion of shore bordering on the shale, is a

much better field for the naturalist. Here the dulse (*Rhodymenia palmata*), a species occasionally eaten by the poor in Scotland, fringes the sides of the pools, with its broad, deeply-cleft, dark-red fronds developed in great luxuriance; as also *Chondrus crispus*, Irish, or Carrageen moss, in large and dense tufts, with every segment of its many-cleft leaves reflecting bright hues of azure and steel-blue, which is a characteristic of this plant. Another sea-weed found here is *Codium tomentosum*, forming thick cylindrical stems, much branched, and of a dark green colour; its appearance is downy, and it has a spongy and slimy feel. This curious plant is plentiful here, imparting a somewhat singular aspect to the shallow pools, forming green velvet-like patches. The great tangle and oreweeds are abundant, with numerous sea thongs, and among them grows a much less common species, the henware (*Alaria esculenta*), a large plant much resembling the oreweed, but of paler colour, and distinguished from it by having a stout midrib running through the whole length of the leaf. This midrib is occasionally eaten.

The slippery rocks are covered in some places with vast quantities of the ordinary sea anemone, *Actinia mesembryanthemum;* and in the deep recesses, at low-water, are found some rarer species, of all colours, the most imposing being the *Tealia crassicornis.*

Of marine animals not many are to be found on

the beaches, except the different varieties of crabs, which are in profusion, as are also lobsters and crayfish of large size.

The spider crab is frequently so covered with parasitic growth and sea-weeds as to render it difficult to distinguish its animal character. Oysters are found on the eastern coast; but the beds are limited in extent, and not prolific. They are occasionally dredged for, but are not so profitable as the lobsters and crabs, which are taken in large quantities in pots.

Zoophytes of the ordinary character, such as *sertularia, plumaria,* and sponges, are found generally in pools and recesses at low-water; but many curious and rarer forms, inhabiting the deeper water, are obtained in the process of lobster catching and oyster dredging, among them the brittle stars, with their snake-like appendages; and the beautiful and plant-like *Plumularia Catherina,* with its transparent stems and star-like tentacles, or flowerets; and the *Crisia eburnea,* or tufted ivory coralline; also the rare bugle coralline (*Salicornaria farciminoides*), which has more the appearance of a membranous sea-weed than an animal. For further details of these most interesting products of the deep sea at Lundy I would refer to the several valuable works of Mr. Gosse on the sea-side zoology and botany of Devon.

In conclusion, I should notice a most prominent feature frequently to be seen on the shores and in the recesses of the rocks of this wild and sea-lashed

Island—the numerous signs and relics of wrecks, with which after severe storms the coast is frequently studded. Great indeed are the number of ships which have been wrecked, and lives which have been lost, on its ragged and storm-beaten rocks, despite the warnings of the lighthouse and fog guns—the mist and spray veiling the one, and the roar of the winds and surf overpowering the other; and many have been the almost naked and shivering mariners who in the dead of night have sought the doors of Mr. Heaven's house for shelter, frequently the first notice the family had received of a wreck having occurred.

The cases of wreck and loss of life have been so numerous, indeed scarcely does a year pass without adding to the number, that I forbear from giving any list of them, or from singling out the harrowing details of any one in particular. Many an unknown mariner has been laid to rest in the graveyard of the ruined church; and the inaccessibility of the Island in periods of tempest has frequently prevented all knowledge of the calamity from reaching the mainland for days, and even weeks, during which intervals entire ships' crews have been occasionally dependent on the hospitality of the proprietor. Were a harbour of refuge formed, or the telegraph extended to the Island, this state of things might be obviated or ameliorated.

A storm off Lundy, apart from its horrors, is a

sight worth seeing. The dash and roar of the breakers all around the Island; the vast amount of surf and foam rising and blending with the rain-drifts and mists above, and obscuring the outlines of the land; the sound of the winds, and the din and reverberation among the precipices, as the waves dash and break against the bases of the lofty cliffs — through which may even be heard the shrieks and wild notes of the innumerable sea birds, who appear to rejoice in the storm—coupled with the utter loneliness, and the feeling of being cut off, as it were, from the world, all chances of help or assistance being comprised within the narrow limits of one little islet, combine to render the scene far more impressive than a storm on the mainland, even though that mainland may be the wild adjacent coast referred to by the Cornish bard, Robert Hawker—

> "War midst the ocean and the land,
> The battle-field Morwenna's strand,
> Where rock and ridge the bulwark keep
> The giant warders of the deep."

APPENDIX.

Ornithology.

LIST OF BIRDS FOUND ON LUNDY.

RESIDENT ALL THE YEAR.

Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus
Kestrel	—— tinnunculus
Raven	Corvus corax
Carrion Crow	——— corone
Chough	Pyrrhocorax graculus
Song Thrush	Turdus musicus
Blackbird	——— merula
Starling	Sturnus vulgaris
Robin	Sylvia rubecula
Linnet	Fringilla cannabina
Chaffinch	——— cœlebs
Whinchat	Saxicola rubetra
Hedge Accentor	Accentor modularis
Yellow Bunting	Emberiza citrinella
Pied Wagtail	Motacilla Yarellii
Skylark	Alauda arvensis
Rock Pipit	Anthus obscurus
Meadow Pipit	——— pratensis
Wren	Troglodytes Europæus
Snipe	Scolopax gallinago
Water Rail	Rallus aquaticus
Herring Gull	Larus argentatus
Lesser Black-backed Gull	—— fuscus
Great Black-backed Gull	—— marinus

Green Cormorant	Phalacrocorax graculus
Great Cormorant	——— carbo
Oyster-catcher or Sea Pie	Hæmatophus ostralegus

SUMMER VISITANTS.

Red-backed Shrike	Lanius collurio
Spotted Fly-catcher	Muscicapa grisola
White Throat	Sylvia cinerea
Willow Wren or Warbler	——— trochilus
Redstart	——— phœnicurus
Swallow	Hirundo rustica
Martin	——— urbica
Sand Martin	——— riparia
Common Swift	Cypselus apus
Wheatear	Saxicola œnanthe
Gray Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea
Ray's Wagtail	——— flava
Greenfinch	Fringilla chloris
Goldfinch	——— carduelis
Turtle Dove	Columba turtur
Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus
Night Jar	Caprimulgus Europæus
Ring Ouzel	Turdus torquatus
Quail	Perdix coturnix
Land Rail	Gallinula crex
Lapwing	Vanellus cristatus
Ring Dotterel	Charadrius hiaticula
Whimbrel	Numenius pheopus
Common Guillemot	Uria troile
Razor-billed Auk	Alca torda
Puffin	Mormon fratercula (Arctica)
Gannet	Sula bassana
Kittiwake Gull	Larus tridactylus
Manx Shearwater	Puffinus anglorum
Stormy Petrel	Thalassidroma Pelagica

AUTUMN AND WINTER VISITANTS.

Short-eared Owl	Strix brachyotus
Fieldfare	Turdus pilaris
Redwig	——— iliacus
Hooded Crow	Corvus cornix

Snow Bunting	Plectrophanes nivalis
Black-headed Bunting	Emberiza schæniculus
Brambling	Fringilla montifringilla
Mountain Linnet or Twite	——— flavirostris
Troite	Linota montium
Golden Plover	Charadrius pluvialis
Woodcock	Scolopax rusticola
Solitary Snipe	——— major
Jack Snipe	——— gallinula
Curlew	Numenius arquata
Great Northern Diver	Colymbus glacialis
Red-throated Diver	——— septentrionalis
Bean Goose	Anser segetum
White-fronted Goose	—— albifrons
Wild Duck	Anas boschas
Shoveler Duck	—— clypeata
Golden Eye Duck	—— clangula
Pintail Duck	Querquedula acuta
Teal	——— cricca
Widgeon	Mareca penelope

OCCASIONAL VISITANTS.

Golden Eagle	Aquila chrysaetus
Spotted Eagle	——— nœvia
Erne or White-tailed Eagle	Haliætus albicilla
Osprey	Pandion haliætus
Kite	Milvus regalis
Gyr Falcon	Falco Islandicus
Merlin	—— æsalon
Hobby	—— subbuteo
Sparrow Hawk	Accipiter nisus
Common Buzzard	Buteo vulgaris
Marsh Harrier	Circus æruginosus
Hen Harrier	——— cyaneus
Montagu Harrier	—— pygargus
White Owl	Strix flammea
Grey Plover	Vanellus melanogaster
Jackdaw	Corvus monedula
Rook	——— frugilegus
Hoopoe	Upupa epops
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Coccyzus Americanus
Common Crossbill	Loxia curvirostra

Rose Pastor	Pastor roseus
Golden Oriole	Oriolus galbula
Hawfinch or Grosbeak	Coccothraustes vulgaris
Stonechat	Saxicola rubecula
Fire-crested Wren	Regulus ignicapillus
Golden-crested Wren	——— cristatus
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus
Kingfisher	Alcedo ispida
Bohemian Waxwing	Bombycilla garrula
Pied Fly-catcher	Muscicapa atricapilla
Bullfinch	Pyrrhula vulgaris
Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus
Rock Dove	——— livia
Turnstone	Cinclus interpres
Tom Tit	Parus cæruleus
Lesser-spotted Woodpecker	Picus minor
Glossy Ibis	Ibis falcinellus
Subalpine Warbler (?)	Sylvia Subalpina Bonelli (?)
Common Gull	Larus canus
Little Gull	—— minutus
Little Auk	Mergulus alle
Common Scoter	Oedemia nigra
Hooper Swan	Cygnus musicus
Little Stint	Tringa minuta
Curlew	Numenius arquata
Black-tailed Godwit	Limosa melanura
Bar-tailed Godwit	——— rufa
Gray Phalarope	Phalaropus lobatus
Eared Grebe	Podiceps nigricollis
Little Grebe	——— minor
Common Tern	Sterna hirundo
Arctic Tern	——— arctica
Turnstone	Strepsilas interpres
Bittern	Botaurus stellaris
Dunlin	Tringa variabilis
Knot	——— canutus
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	——— rufescens
Purple Sandpiper	——— maritima
Curlew	——— subarquata
Redshank	Totanus calidris
Greenshank	——— glottis
Green Sandpiper	——— ochropus

Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus
Common Heron	Ardea cinerea
Spotted Rail	Crex porzana

The following have been reported, but not accurately identified, being principally young birds in immature plumage; the others only seen on the wing:

Egyptian Goose	Chenalopex Ægyptica
Canadian Goose	Bernicula Canadensis
Brent Goose	——— brenta
Velvet Duck	Oidemia fusca
Scaup Duck	Fuligula marita
Masked or Bonaparte's Gull	Larus capistratus
Laughing Gull	—— atricilla
Crane	Grus cinerea
Reed Warbler	Calamodyta strepera
Black-cap Warbler	Sylvia atricapilla
Shore Lark	Octocoris alpestres
White's Thrush	Turdus Whitei

Entomology.

LIST OF LEPIDOPTERA OF LUNDY.

PAPILIONES (*BUTTERFLIES*).

Clouded Yellow	Colias edusa
Cabbage White	Synchlöe brassicæ
Small White	Synchlöe rapæ
Green-veined White	Synchlöe napi
Orange-tip	Euchlöe cardamines
Heath Fritillary	Melitæa athalia
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Argynnis selene
Pearl-bordered Fritillary	Argynnis euphrosyne
Comma	Vanessa C. album
Large Tortoiseshell	Vanessa polychloros
Small Tortoiseshell	Vanessa urticæ
Peacock	Vanessa io
Red Admiral	Pyrameis atalanta

Painted Lady	Pyrameis cardui
Small Meadow Brown	Epinephele tithonus
Large Meadow Brown	Epinephele janira
Small Heath	Cænonympha pamphilus
Small Copper	Chrysophanus phlæas
Brown Argus	Lycæna agestis
Common Blue	Lycæna alexis
Brimstone	Gonepterye rhamni

HETEROCERA (*MOTHS*).

ZYGÆNA.

Broad-bordered five-spot Burnet	Zygæna trifolii
Six-spotted Burnet	Zygæna filipendulæ

SPHINX.

Humming-bird	Macroglossa stellatarum
Poplar Hawk	Laothöe populi
Death's-Head	Acherontia atropos
Convolvulus Hawk	Protoparce convolvuli

PHALÆNA.

Golden Swift	Hepialus hectus
Buff Tip	Pygoera bucephala
Rusty Prominent	Notodonta dromedarius
Glory of Kent	Endromis versicolor
Emperor	Saturnia pavonia minor
Oak Egger	Lasiocampa quercus
Ground Lackey	Clisiocampa castrensis
Great Tiger	Arctia caja
Great Yellow Underwing	Triphœna pronuba
Common Dart	Agrotis segetum
Silver Y	Plusia gamma
Pale Thorn	Geometra canaria
Brimstone	Rumia cratoegata
Waved Umbre	Hemerophila abruptaria
Spinach	Electra spinachiata
Magpie	Abraxas grossulariata
Marbled Beauty	Bryophila glandifera
Wormwood Plume	Pterophorus spilodactylus

Sixcleft Plume	Alucita haxadactyla
Ochreous Plume	Pterophorus ochodactylus

And many others not sufficiently identified to be named, especially amongst the Tineæ.

LIST OF COLEOPTERA OF LUNDY.

(Taken by Mr. WOLLASTON, 1844-1845.)

Cicindela campestris
Olisthophus rotundatus
Calathus melanocephalus
Argutor erythropus
Dromius linearis
Metabletus foveola
Carabus granulatus
——— nemoralis
Badister bipustulatus
Omaseus affinis
Steropus madidus
Pœcilus versicolor
Amara trivialis
——— convexior
Harpalus æneus
——— plebeia
——— limbatus
——— honestus
Ophonus puncticollis
Bradycellus fulvus
——— minutus
Notiophilus biguttatus
——— aquaticus
Haliplus lineatocollis
Hydroporus memnonius
——— gyllentialu
——— erythrocephalus
——— planus
Agabus châlconotus
——— bipunctatus
Helophorus aquaticus
——— granularis
——— griseus
Dasytes nobilis
Ceuthorhynchus assimilis
——— erysimi
——— contractus (var.)
——— ericæ
——— troglodytes
Anthonomus ater
Rhinonchus pericarpuis
Hypera punctata
Otiorhynchus rugifrons
——— ligneus
Tychius tomentosus
Strophosomus retusus
Sitones sulcifrons
——— flavescens
——— hispidulus
——— puncticollis
Orobitis cyaneus
Polydrosus chrysomela
Apion humile
——— violaceum
——— striatum
——— frumentarium
——— scutellora
——— carduorum
——— fagi
——— flavipes
Graptodera ampelophagas
Rhynchites minutus
Crepidodera exoleta
Dolopius marginatus
Diacanthus holosericeus
Lacon murinus

Berosus luridus
Parnus prolifericornis
Limnebius truncatellus
——— marginellus
Cercyon littorale
——— hæmorrhoidale
——— minutum
——— pygmæum fuscescens
Megasternum stercorarium
Nitidula æstiva
Ptenidium apicale
Leiodes rufa (?)
Necrophorus vestigator
——— humator
Silpha tristis
Meligethes viridescens
——— æneus
Cercus rufilabris
——— glaber
——— pyrrhopus
Atomaria fuscipes (Gyl.)
——— atricapilla
Typhœus vulgaris
Corticaria punctulata
——— gibbosa
Lathridius transversus
Byrrhus pilula
Aphodius ater
——— fossor
Cetonia aurata
Aleochara lanuginosa
——— nitida
——— obscurella
Ocypus compressus
——— æneocephalus
——— olens
Quedius tristis
Tadchyporus gracilis
——— brunneus
——— solutus
——— obtusus
——— hypnorum
Cratonychus castanipes
Athous hœmorrhoidalis
Telephorus testaceus
Ptilinus pectinicornis
Ceutorhynchus didymus
Geotrupes sylvaticus
Serica brunnea
Adrastus limbatus
Agriotes sputator
——— lineatus
Thyamis apicalis (Waterh. MS.)
——— tabida
——— obliterata
——— exolita
Mantura chrysanthemi
Psylliodes Dulcamaræ
Sphæroderma testacea
Apteropeda graminis
Chrysomela varians
——— Banksii
——— fucata
Sarrotrium muticum
Helops striatus
Mycetochares murina
Cryptocephalus minutus
Hyperaspis reppensis
Scymnus limbatus
Cteniopus sulphureus
Proscarabæus violaceus
Aleochara fuscipes
Philonthus intermedius
——— varians
Philonthus xantholoma
——— xantholinus linearis
Omalium rivulare
Quedius semiobscurus
——— böops
Xantholinus glabratus
Stenus impressus (Erichson)
——— canaliculatus
Oxytelus depressus
Astilbus canaliculatus

ADDITIONAL COLEOPTERA.

(By Mr. F. Smith, 1870 and 1874.)

GEODEPHAGA.

Demetrias atricapillus
Nebria brevicollis
Calathus cisteloides
Auchomenus moestus
Auchomenus pallipes
Pterosticus nigrita

HARPALIDÆ.

Ainsodactylus binotatus

DYTISCIDÆ.

Agabus bipustulatus

TACHYPORIDÆ.

Tachyporus brunncus

NITIDULIDÆ.

Cercus rufilabris
Miligethes lugubris

ATTELABIDÆ.

Apion radiolum
—— æneum
—— marchicum
Apion humile
—— rufirostre
—— nigritaru

ERIRHINIDÆ.

Tychius lineatulus
Miccotrogus picirostris
Sibynes primitus

CRYPTORHYNCHIDÆ.

Centhorhynchus assimilis
Centhorhynchus quadridens

CRYPTOCEPHALIDÆ.

Cryptocephalus minutus

HALTICIDÆ.

Crepidodera ferruginea
Phyllotreta atra
Thyamis lurida
——— exoleta
——— melanocephala

COCCINELLIDÆ.

Coccinella II. punctata

LIST OF HYMENOPTERA.

(Taken by Mr. F. Smith, at Lundy, 1870 and 1874.)

FORMICIDÆ.

Formica fusca
——— nigra
——— flava
Formica cunicularia
Myrmica lævinodis
——— ruginodis

POMPILIDÆ.

Pompilus gibbus

VESPIDÆ.

Odynerus gracilis
——— trimarginatus
Vespa vulgaris
——— sylvestris

ANDREMIDÆ.

Colletes succincta
Sphecodes rufescens
——— gibbus
——— subquadratus
Halictus rubicundus
——— cylindricus
Halictus tumulorum
——— morio
——— pubescens
——— minutus
——— leucozonius

APIDÆ.

Nomada ruficorius
——— Jacobæa
Bombus lucorum
Bombus hortorum
Apathus vestalis
Apis mellifica

SPECIMENS OF HOMOPTERA.

Stenobothrus biguttatus
Ptyelus lineatus
Ptyelus bifasciatus
Evacanthus interruptus

Botany.

CATALOGUE OF PLANTS, &c. GROWING ON LUNDY.

Where a * appears, it denotes that there are also pure white varieties of the plant.

POPULAR NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
Water Crowfoot	Ranunculus aquatilis
Great Spearwort	——— lingua
Lesser Spearwort	——— flammula
Lesser Celandine, or Pilewort	——— ficaria
Bulbous Buttercup	——— bulbosus
Meadow Crowfoot, or Buttercup	——— acris
Creeping Crowfoot, or Buttercup	——— repens
Marsh Marigold	Caltha palustris
Columbine	Aquilegia vulgaris
Fumitory	Fumaria officinalis
Shepherd's Purse	Capsella bursapastoris
Teesdalia	Teesdalia nudicaulis
Scurvy Grass	Cochlearia officinalis
English Scurvy Grass	——— anglica
Sweet Alyssum	Königa maritima
Common Water Cress	Nasturtium officinale
Common Hedge Mustard	Sisymbrium officinale
Common Wild Navew	Brassica campestris
Sea Cabbage	——— oleracea
Wild Mustard, or Charlock	Sinapis arvensis
Dyer's Rocket Yellow Weed, or Weld	Reseda luteola
Marsh Violet	Viola palustris
Dog Violet	—— canina
Pansy, or Heartsease	—— tricolor
Round-leaved Sundew, or Fly Trap	Drosera rotundifolia
Common Milkwort	Polygala vulgaris *
Corn Cockle	Agrostemina githago

POPULAR NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
Bladder Campion	Silene inflata
Sea Campion, or Catch Fly	—— maritima
White Campion	Lychnis vespertina
Red Campion	——— diurna
Procumbent Pearlwort	Sagina procumbens
Corn Spurry	Spergula arvensis
Chickweed	Stellaria media
Greater Stichwort, Satin Flower, or Addersmeat	——— holostea
Lesser Stichwort	——— graminea
Bog Stichwort	——— uliginosa
Sea Sandwort	Arenaria marina
Common Flax	Linum usitatissimum
Common Mallow, or Marsh Mallow	Malva sylvestris
Musk Mallow	—— moschata
Common Lime, or Linden	Tilia Europæa
Upright Perforated St. John's Wort	Hypericum perforatum
Trailing St. John's Wort	——— humifusum
Small Upright St. John's Wort	——— pulchrum
Marsh St. John's Wort	——— elodes
Greater Maple, or Sycamore	Acer pseudo-platanus
Herb Robert	Geranium Robertianum
Dovesfoot Crane's Bill	——— molle
Common Furze, or Whin	Ulex Europæus
Dwarf Furze	—— nanus
Common Broom	Sarothamnus scoparius
Kidney Veitch, or Lady's Fingers	Anthyllis vulneraria
Black Medick, or Nonsuch	Medicago lupulina
Common Yellow Melilot	Melilotus officinalis
White or Dutch Clover	Trifolium repens
Common Purple Clover	——— pratense
Haresfoot Trefoil	——— arvense
Soft Knotted Trefoil	——— striatum
Hop Trefoil	——— procumbens
Greater Birdsfoot Trefoil	Lotus major
Common B. F. Trefoil, or Lady's Slipper, or Crosstoes	—— corniculatus
Slender Yellow Trefoil	Trifolium minus, or filiforme

POPULAR NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
Tufted Vetch	Vicia cracca
Spring Vetch	—— lathyroides
Common Vetch	—— sativa
Birdsfoot	Ornithopus pupusillus
Sloe, or Black Thorn	Prunus communis
Silverweed	Potentilla anserina
Spring Cinquefoil	——— verna
Tormentil	——— tormentilla
Strawberry-leaved Cinquefoil	——— fragariastra
Common Bramble	Rubus fruticosus
Dewberry	—— cæsius
Burnet, or Bloodwort	Sanguisorba officinalis
Scotch Rose, or Burnet-leaved Rose	Rosa spinosissima
Sweet Brier	—— rubiginosa
Dog Rose	—— canina
Mountain Ash	Pyrus aucuparia
Hawthorn, or May	Cratægus oxyacantha
Willow Herb (2 or 3 varieties not identified)	Epilobium (palustre, Montanum) (?)
Water Purslane	Peplis portula
Tamarisk	Tamarix Anglica
Water Blinks	Montia fontana
Whorled Knot Grass	Illecebrum verticillatum
Wall Pennywort	Cotyledon umbilicus
English Stonecrop	Sedum Anglicum
White Stonecrop	——— album
London Pride	Saxifraga umbrosa
Common White Rot, or Sheep's Bane, or Marsh Pennywort	Hydrocotyle vulgaris
Corn Parsley	Pretroselinum segetum
Marshwort	Heliosciadum nodiflorum
Common Earth Nut, or Pig Nut	Bunium flexuosum
Fool's Parsley	Æthusa cynapium
Sea Samphire	Crithmum maritimum
Cow Parsnip	Heracleum sphondylium
Common Hemlock	Conium maculatum
Seaside Carrot	Daucus maritimus
Common Ivy	Hedera helix
Wild Cornel, or Dogwood (??)	Cornus sanguinia (??)

POPULAR NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
Common Elder	Sambucus nigra
Mealy Guelder, Rose, or Wayfaring Tree	Viburnum lantana
Common Honeysuckle, or Woodbine	Lonicera periclymenum
Yellow Bedstraw	Galium verum
Smooth Heath Bedstraw	——— saxatile
Rough Marsh Bedstraw	——— uliginosum
Goose Grass, or Cleavers	——— aparine
Devil's Bit Scabious	Scabiosa succisa *
Field Knautia	Knautia arvensis
Hawkweed Picris	Picris hieracioides
Rough Hawkbit	Apargia hispida
Autumnal Hawkbit	——— autumnalis
Hairy Thrincia	Thrincia hirta
Cat's Ear	Hypochæris radicata
Corn Sow-thistle	Sonchus arvensis
Annual Sow-thistle	———oleraceus
Smooth Hawk's-beard	Crepis virens
Common Dandelion	Leontodon taraxacum
Hawkweed (varieties not identified)	Hieracium (varia)
Common Nipplewort, or Swine's Cress	Lapsana communis
Succory	Cichorium intybus
Burdock	Arctium lappa
Welted Thistle	Carduus acanthoides
Slender Flowered Thistle	——— tenuiflorus
Marsh Plume Thistle	Cnicus palustris
Meadow Plume Thistle	——— pratensis
Common Thistle	Onopordum acanthium
Greater Knapweed	Centaurea scabiosa
Corn Bluebottle	——— Cyanus
Hemp Agrimony	Eupatorium cannabinum
Common Filago	Filago Germanica
Coltsfoot	Tussilago farfara
Blue Fleabane (?)	Erigeron acris (?)
Golden Rod	Solidago virgaurea
Common Groundsel	Senecio vulgaris
Mountain, or Balm-scented Groundsel	Senecio sylvaticus

POPULAR NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
Common Ragwort	Senecio Jacobæa
Common Daisy	Bellis perennis
Ox-eye	Chrysanthemum leucanthemum
Scentless Mayweed	Matricaria inodora
Wild Chamomile	——— chamomilla
Stinking Chamomile	Anthemis cotula
Sneeze-wort Yarrow	Achillea ptarmica
Common Yarrow, or Milfoil	——— millefolium
Ivy-leaved Bell-flower	Campanula hederacea
Annual Sheep's Bit, or Scabious	Jasione montana
Cross-leaved Heath	Erica tetralix *
Fine-leaved Heath	—— cinerea *
Ling, or Heather	Calluna vulgaris *
Holly	Ilex aquifolium
Privet	Ligustrum vulgare
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior
Common Centaury	Erythræa centaurium
Dwarf-branched Centaury	——— pulchella
Tufted Centaury	——— latifolia
Great Bindweed, or Convolvulus	Calystegia sepium
Scorpion Grass, or Forget-me-not	Myosotis palustris *
Tufted Water Scorpion Grass	——— cœspitosa
Field Scorpion Grass	——— arvensis
Early Field Scorpion Grass	——— Collina
Common Borage	Borago officinalis
Common Hound's-tongue	Cynoglossum officinale
Thorn Apple	Datura stramonium
Henbane (?)	Hyoscyamus niger (??)
Black Nightshade	Solanum nigrum
Deadly Nightshade, or Dwale (?)	Atropa belladonna
Greater Broom Rape	Orobanche major
Tall Broom Rape (?)	——— elatior (?)
Thyme-leaved Speedwell (?)	Veronica serpyllifolia (?)
Brooklime	——— beccabunga
Common Speedwell	——— officinalis
Germander Speedwell	——— chamædrys

POPULAR NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
Common Eyebright	Euphrasia officinalis
Common Yellow Rattle	Rhinanthus Crista galli
Pasture Lousewort	Pedicularis sylvatica*
Knotted Figwort	Scrophularia nodosa
Balm-leaved Figwort	——— scorodonia
Foxglove	Digitalis purpurea*
Snapdragon	Antirrhinum majus
Ivyleaved Toad-flax, or Mother of Thousands	Linaria cymbalaria
Moth Mullein	Verbascum blattaria
Wild Thyme	Thymus serpyllum*
Wood Germander, or Wood Sage	Teucrium scorodonia
White Dead Nettle	Lamium album
Red Dead Nettle	——— purpureum
Ground Ivy	Nepeta glechoma
Common White Horehound	Marrubium vulgare
Self-heal	Prunella vulgaris
Vervain	Verbena officinalis
Primrose	Primula vulgaris
Yellow Pimpernel, or Wood Loosestrife	Lysimachia nemorum
Scarlet Pimpernel, or Poor Man's Weather Glass	Anagallis arvensis
Blue Pimpernel	——— cærulea
White, or Flesh-coloured Pimpernel	——— carnea
Bog Pimpernel	——— tenella
Thrift, or Sea Pink	Armeria maritima*
Greater Plantain	Plantago major
Hoary Plantain	——— media
Ribwort Plantain, or Ribbed Grass	——— lanceolata
Sea-side Plantain	——— maritima
Buck's-horn Plantain	——— coronopus
White Goose-foot	Chenopodium album
Mercury Goosefoot, or Good King Henry, or Sea Spinach	Chenopodium Bonus Henricus
Common Buckwheat	Polygonum fagopyrum
Common Knotgrass	——— aviculare

POPULAR NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
Broad-leaved Dock, and others not identified	Rumex obtusifolius (et alii)
Common Sorrel	——— acetosa
Sheep Sorrel	——— acetosella
Sun Spurge, or Waitweed, or Wolf's Milk	Euphorbia helioscopia
Portland Spurge	——— Portlandica
Petty Spurge	——— peplus
Great Nettle	Urtica dioica
Small Nettle	——— urens
Alder	Alnus glutinosa
Common White Willow	Salix alba
Common Osier	—— viminalis
Great Sallow, or Goat Willow	—— caprea
Dark-leaved Sallow	—— nigricans
Small Tree Willow	—— arbuscula
Poplar White	Populus alba
Lombardy Poplar	——— fastigiata
Common Beech	Fagus sylvatica
Common Oak	Quercus pedunculata
Early Purple Orchis	Orchis mascula
Daffodil	Narcissus Pseudo-Narcissus
Narcissus	——— poeticus
Wild Hyacinth, or Blue Bell	Agraphis nutans*
Soft Rush	Juncus effusus
Common Rush	——— conglomeratus
Bog Asphodel	Narthecium ossifragum
Cuckoo Pint	Arum maculatum
Bird's Foot Fenugreek	Trigonella ornithopodiodes
Sea Milkwort, or Black Saltwort	Glaux maritima
Lesser Scull Cap	Scutellaria minor
Marsh Whorled Mint	Mentha sativa
Common Rock Cistus, or Rock Rose	Helianthemum vulgare
Bittersweet	Solanum dulcamara
Perfoliate Yellow Wort	Chlora perfoliata
Common Dropwort, or Meadow Sweet	Spiræa filipendula
Brown-rayed Knapweed	Centaurea jacea
Narrow-leaved Cotton Grass	Eriophorum angustifolium

POPULAR NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
Halberd-leaved Orache, or Sea Purslane	Atriplex patula
Water Figwort	Scrophularia aquatica
Bog Moss	Sphagnum cuspidatum
English Catchfly	Silene quinquevulnera, or Anglica
Duckweed, varieties not identified	Lemna
Plantain-leaved Pondweed, other varieties	Potamogeton plantagineus (et alii) (?)
Rhododendron	Rhododendron Ponticum
Common Lilac	Syringa vulgaris
Persian Lilac	——— Persica
Snow Berry, or St. Peter's Wort	Symphoria racemosa
Veronica (from New Zealand?)	Veronica (Nova Zealandica?)
Hydrangea	
Wild Mignonette	Reseda lutea
Sea Purslane	Armaria peploides
Bitter Vetch	Lothyrus protensis
Sea Lavender	Statice auriculafolia

FERNS.

Common Polybody	Polypodium vulgare
Male Fern	Lastrea filix mas
Rigid Fern	——— rigida
Narrow Prickly Toothed Fern (?)	——— spinulosa (?)
Broad Prickly Toothed Fern	——— dilatata
Hay-scented Fern	——— recurva
Prickly Shield Fern	Polystichum aculeatum
Brittle Bladder Fern	Cystopteris fragilis
Narrow Brittle Fern	——— angustata
Lady Fern	Athyrium filix-fœmina
Lanceolate Spleenwort	Asplenium lanceolatum
Black Spleenwort	——— adiantum nigrum
Sea Spleenwort	——— marinum
Hart's Tongue	Scolopendrium vulgare
Hard Fern	Blechnum boreale

POPULAR NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
Common Brake, Bracken, Eagle Fern	Pteris aquilina
Royal Fern, Flowering Fern	Osmunda regalis
Adder's Tongue	Ophioglossum vulgatum
Maiden Hair (now probably extinct within the last thirty years)	Adiantum Capillus Veneris

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